The Easton Gazette.

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WAITING.

As those who, on some lonely mountain height,
Watching through all the weary hours of night,
Await the pale rose of the morning light,
I wait for thee.

As one who, waking on a bed of pain,
And, helpless in his agony, is fain
To wait the sweet return of sleep again,
I wait for thee.

As he who, in some vast cathedral, dim
With shadows, silent waits, on bended limb,
The music of the Eucharistic hymn,
I wait for thee.

As deaf men crave for song, and blind for sight,
As weary sons of toil long for the night,
And as the fettered spirit longs for flight,
I long for thee.

—Arthur T. Froggatt, in the Spectator.

Stealing a Policeman.

BY S. BARING-GOULD.

RUTLAND is the smallest county in England; it is but eighteen miles long, and its extreme breadth is fifteen. The consequence of this contracted area is that whatever happens in one corner of the county is noised over every part of it, and that the affairs of every person in the county are intimately known to every other.

In one of the fifty parishes, which shall not be named, because to name it is unessential, lived a youth named Joseph Samuel Wardley. He was the son of a blacksmith, was an able-bodied, fine-looking fellow, broad-shouldered, broad-breasted, with light red hair, and eyes that seemed to have fallen into the copper when his mother was washing, and to have had the color boiled out of them, so light were they.

Joseph Samuel Wardley was—if virtue consists in a series of negatives—a most exemplary character. He didn't swear, he didn't drink, he didn't quabble with his fellow-men. If, however, virtue consists of positives, then it would be hard to say what Joseph Samuel Wardley was distinguished for his virtue; for, as a matter of fact, it would be hard to say what Joseph Samuel Wardley did that was good. He was slow in his movements, slow in taking in ideas, slower in making use of them when he had received them into his brain.

He had worked with his father at the forge, but his father feared that he would never make a blacksmith, as he tired the horses out and made them restive before he had shod all their four feet. Then Joseph Samuel was sent to work on a farm, but he was so slow at the plow that the farmers would not retain him in their services.

It was said that Joseph Samuels was always asleep. This was not exactly true. Joseph Samuel was so drowsy and indolent over his work by day, that he was never sufficiently exhausted by his efforts to enjoy a sound sleep at night. He was half asleep by day, he was half awake by night. There is nothing so conducive to all-forgetting sleep as the exercise of the full energies by day. Joseph Samuel did not put forth even one-half of his energies by day. The other half remained to disturb the tranquility of the night; consequently he was a light sleeper, and sometimes it was as doubtful whether he were asleep at night, as it was doubtful whether he were awake by day.

As he was dismissed from the plow-tail, he returned to his father, who employed him to work the bellows which kept his fire going in the forge. "But," as the farrier said, "a chap can't go on all his life blowing bellows. I must find some profession or trade for which he is suited."

Accident or Fate seemed to give the requisite indication. The father of Joseph Samuel had been an industrious man all his life, and it was believed that he had amassed money. He had no dealings with the bank at Oakham; that was well known. Where, then did he keep his money? It was whispered that, singularly enough, whenever he had received payment of a heavy bill, Mr. Wardley was observed to mount a ladder to put straight, as he said, one of the tiles in his roof that was out of place and let the water through. That the coincidence was noticed, and was a matter of discussion, never occurred to the blacksmith. The last time he brought in his bill to the Squire it was for the sum of five-and-twenty pounds and some odd shillings. No sooner had he received the money than it was remarked a tile was again loose in his roof.

One night that Joseph Samuel lay awake, unable by any means to induce sleep—such as by counting sheep going through a gap in the hedge, repeating his catechism, listening to the snores of his parents in an adjoining room—he thought he heard a sound on the tiles, as if some one was engaged repairing the roof. He got out of bed, peered through the window, and saw by the light of a crescent moon that a ladder was set against the house, and that a pair of legs were visible on the ladder.

As Joseph Samuel was inclined for activity all night, and was prompt then in his resolutions, which was not the case by day, he stole downstairs on tiptoe, and opened the back door softly. He was in his robe de nuit. That did not matter. The air was cool but not frosty, and no rain was falling. He was at the back of the house—the opposite side to that at which the ladder was set up, and where he had observed the legs. He knew where his father kept a ladder. He went bare footed to the spot, removed the house, planted at the back of the ladder climbed up it without causing the smallest noise, and succeeded in making his way cautiously up the tiles till he reached the ridge of his father's roof. Holding to the ridge tiles, he heaved himself up by both hands breast high above the ridge-piece.

Then he saw what was being done on the further side.

Two men were there. One was on a ladder and held another by the ankles who had scrambled onto the roof. The latter was lifting tile after tile and feeling under each, obviously expecting to find and carry off the farrier's store of savings.

Joseph Samuel Wardley did not hesitate for a moment what to do. With perfect presence of mind, and great energy as well as courage, he said, "Bo!"

The robbers were staggered. They looked up, saw a semi-white figure rising above the roof, glowering at them. Their nerve gave way. He who was on the ladder let go the ankles of the man on the roof; the latter slid down, and fell on the man with his feet on the ladder rungs; and both were precipitated to the bottom.

Joseph Samuel now aroused the house, and the burglars were arrested. One had dislocated his hip, the other had concussion of the brain, his head having fallen on a brick. Had the brick been a little harder, it is believed it would have broken his head; as it was, the burglar's head broke the brick—split it into three pieces.

The two men were delivered over to the police, and were brought before the magistrates at the Petty Sessions, who consigned them to be tried at the Quarter Sessions for attempted burglary.

When the trial came on, the plea put in for the two men was that they had been bird nesting, and evidence was produced that they had been seen going up trees.

Nothing had been taken. The house had not been broken into, so that some difficulty was entertained as to the nature of their offence, and the amount of punishment to be awarded if found guilty. Finally, they were found guilty of an attempt at bird nesting with felonious intent, and were ordered nine months' imprisonment with hard labor.

This incident determined the mind of the blacksmith as to the proper avocation for his son. Joseph Samuel must become a policeman. A "bobby" has to be about at night, and that was precisely what Joseph was calculated for, as he could not sleep at night.

He was so able bodied, was such a fine figure of a man, that he was at once accepted and put in the force. He assumed the not unpicturesque uniform of a county policeman, and believed that he had found his true occupation.

He was finally planted at a place on the opposite side of the little county. Of course, the fame of his exploit had preceded him. He was looked up to as a man of the greatest ability, energy and resolution, and it was concluded that with him in the parish everything was safe.

It was conjectured, rather than known, that the fear of Joseph Samuel had fallen on all the miscreants in the county of Rutland. It was high time that men of a superior order of intelligence should be engaged in the force, for a number of robberies had been committed of late on the graziers of Luthlandshire. The low land, readily overflowed, serves for the rearing of young cattle till they are fit to kill, when they are sent in great numbers to the London market. There had been theft of calves and young bullocks. Sometimes the live beasts had been carried off, rapidly dispatched and dismissed to London before the day broke. Some graziers had lost severely. It was not possible to say where the next robbery would take place, consequently all were equally anxious and uneasy.

A small farmer was one evening on his way to the nearest town. He had the carcass of a young bullock to dispose of. His ground was overflowed, and as he could no longer feed his bullock he killed it, and was taking the carcass to London, when, passing through Bashentine—the village at which Joseph Samuel was quartered—he disposed of it to the village butcher, who at once removed the dead meat and paid the man for it.

The farmer had something to do in the town besides selling the carcass, so he proceeded on his way, but drew up at a little tavern where he was fond of having his glass. He unharnessed his horse, ran the light cart under cover, and entered the public house. The man was abdicted to drink; he had money in his pocket; he met there with some chums; and the end was that he resolved to make a night of it.

A spirit of perversity rules the destinies of men. As long as Joseph Samuel was obliged to be awake by day, he could not sleep at night; but now that he was a policeman, and had to make his excursions by night, he felt sleepy when the dark set in, and some nights was hardly able to keep his eyes open. It was so on this evening. He was coming along the road, beside which stood the public-house into which the farmer had gone. He was so weary, so heavy in his eyes, that he resolved on having just a wink of sleep to freshen him before he proceeded on his beat. Accordingly, he entered the shed attached to the tavern, and finding a light cart, crept into it, stretched himself on the straw in the bottom, and in a moment was fast asleep. He slept so soundly that he did not stir—did not snore.

Not a quarter of an hour had elapsed before two men stole into the cart-shed. One had a slight limp. The other had a lump at the back of his head.

"You're sure of it?" asked the latter of these men.

"Certain. He killed his bullock this morning. He's drinking in the house."

"Shall we get out his cob, harness it, and drive away with cart and carcass?"

"The stable door is locked. I think we'd best draw the cart ourselves. It's light, and we shall get to the station by daybreak."

The two men drew the cart forth.

"It's heavy," said the limping man.

"It's the bullock; it's a prime beast, I can tell you."

The two fellows drew the cart into the road, put themselves into the shafts, and started running as hard as they could, drawing the cart along with them. The night was dark, the movement was conducive to sleep, and Joseph Samuel slept on peacefully, and dreamed of home.

A little after midnight. "I say, Tummas," said the shaft horse, "I'm tremendous hungry. What do you say—shall we halt, cut a slice out of the carcass and have a cutlet each?"

"I wouldn't risk it," said the leader. "The fire might betray us; we couldn't eat raw cutlets—we ain't savages."

"Well, cut along, Tummas."

And away cantered the thieves with the cart and carcass. Toward dawn they neared the station.

Both were becoming fatigued.

"I say, Tummas, said the shaf horse, "I'm so rampageous hungry I could eat the whole bullock."

"And I'm so thirsty.'. said the leader, "I could drink his blood."

"Hark!"

Both halted and looked back. The gray dawn was breaking. Behind they heard shouts and the sound of a horse's hoofs approaching at a gallop.

But they saw something that still more greatly disconcerted them—a head and shoulders rising over the splash-board of the cart, and heard, "Bo!"

The men let go the shafts—they ran—ran as fast as they could in their then condition of exhaustion.

Swiftly along the road came the farmer galloping, swearing as he galloped in pursuit of his lost cart.

Rutland is a small county; so small that the story of how Joseph Samuel, the policeman, was run away with by thieves flew all over it; and it had reached his native village before the arrival of Joseph Samuel himself, who was dismissed the force.

Joseph Samuel has returned to the bellows. He blows them for his father at the present day.—New York Storiettes.

Life is doing well.

THE NEWS.

In the Sangamon Circuit Court, at Springfield, Ill., the Atlantic Trust Company, of New York, filed a petition for foreclosure of a mortgage against the St. Louis, Chicago and St. Paul Railroad for $1,2[illegible]0,000. The court appointed the Charles E. Kimball Company receivers, with Joseph Dickson for the road.——Albert Von Gelder, son of a Hollan nobleman, was arrested in Chicago on a charge of stealing diamonds.——George Helme, snuff manufacturer, and owner of the town of Helmetta, N. J., died of heart disease. He was seventy-four years old, and worth about $4,000,000.——Mrs. James Kirkendall, of Spokane, Wash., fed her little daughter of strychnine, and then took some herself. Both are dead.——Mrs. Kate Kerch, living near Parkersburg, W. Va., lost her reason, killed two children, threw two others in a well, and then poisoned herself.——The Dexter Wagon Works, at Canton, Ohio, were destroyed by a fire supposed to be of incendiary origin. Loss $12,000; insurance $10,000. The plant had been on fire three times during the past month.——The Backus Wire Nail company, of Cleveland, has made an assignment.——Postmaster Charles B. Worldey postmaster at Long Branch City, has disappeared. There is a shortage of $2,0[illegible]0 in his accounts.

Greenwood C. Pray, of Guilford, a young man of twenty-eight years, shot and killed his wife, then shot himself at Shirley, in Denver. The couple separated four weeks ago on account of family troubles. Pray's people live in Blanchard. His mother has been insane for years. Two small children survive, one an infant. Pray is still living.——D. J. Fallis, a well-to-do Cincinnati business man, was taken off the Bradford train in a half insensible condition and died in the Erie Depot, in Jamestown, N. Y., in a few minutes.——Erie train, No. 3, was thrown from the track in Jamestown, N. Y. The engine, two baggage and two express cars were demolished. None of the passengers were injured. Fireman Smith, of Greenville, was scalded, and Engineer Williams and Expressman Bouser, both of Salamanca, were hurt.——Abraham Morton, a wealthy farmer residing near Baileys Corner, in Wall township, N. J., has brought suit before Judge Coniver, of the Monmouth county court, against Howard Remsen, of Sea Plain, N. J., in the sum of $15 000 for the loss of his daughter's services Remsen is the son of the late Judge Remsen, who was one of the associate judges.

The battleship Massachusetts was launched from Cramp's shipyard, in the presence of the Secretary of the Navy and the Attorney General and fifteen thousand people. Miss Lelia Herbert, daughter of the Secretary of the Navy, christened the ship.——Mrs. Kate Miller, a widow aged 54 years, was killed by a cable car in Cincinnati.——It was reported in Philadelphia that, should the present Reading financial scheme fall through, another plan would be offered, and that the threats of foreclosure were meaningless.——Fire at Hampton, Va., destroyed the Pythian Hall and Brittingham's mattress factory. Loss, $3,000.——The Circuit Court of Bedford county, Va., gave a verdict for $7,500 damages against the Norfolk and Western Railroad in the suit brought by the administrators of W. F. Wardroll, who was killed in the accident.——Owing to the suspension of the Citizens National Bank, of Hillsboro, O., the Lynchburg Bank, of Wilmington, O., a branch institution, was forced to suspend. It has a capital of about $50,000.——E. V. Thompson, a farmer-capitalist, died at his home near Louisville, Ky., aged seventy-four. Mr. Thompson was the wealthiest citizen of the county, it being estimated that he was worth in the neighborhood of $3,000,000.——A. L. Backus & Co., one of the largest grain commission firms in Toledo, O., made a voluntary assignment. The liabilities will exceed $300,000, while the assests cannot be estimated.

George Pike, the embezzling accountant of the Imperial Bank of Toronto, who was arrested recently in Kansas City, was sentenced to three months' imprisonment. Pike stole $12,000, which he lost in speculation.——Fire destroyed the sheds of laths and shingles of the Eastern Lumber Company, in Tonawanda, N. Y.——The works of the Meriam & Morgan Parafine Company, corner of Seneca and Ohio streets, Cleveland, were partially destroyed by fire. The plant consisted of a three-story brick building used for making parafine wax, a three-story frame coopershop and a four-story brick candle factory; loss $200,000.——Destructive forest fires have been raging in the vicinity of Creede, Col., for two weeks, and the flames swept over a portion of Bachelor Hill, destroying a number of cabins and the shaft houses of the Argenta, White Star, Moran and the Park Regent companies.——Five persons were injured, one fatally, by being thrown from a runaway car in Chicago.——The People's Guarantee Savings Bank, of Kansas City, made an assignment. The liabilities are supposed to be about $70,000, and the assets between $50,000 and $65,000.——The terribly mangled body of Gustave Koenig, a well-known young business man, was found beside the Hannibal tracks near St. Joseph, Mo. He had been murdered and robbed, after which the body was laid on the track to cover up the cause of death. There is a clue to the murderers, which the officials are following up. Koenig was to have been married Sunday, and was returning from calling on his fiancee when murdered.

John L. Osmond, was electrocuted in Sing Sing, for the murder of his wife and his cousin, John C. Burchell.——Nine prisoners escaped from the jail at Tyler, Texas. The keys were left by the warden in the office, and are believed to have been handed to the prisoner by a colored servant. The officers recaptured the prisoners subsequently.——The passenger steamer Nyack, which left Buffalo with a large excursion party for the World's Fair, and which was reported as having foundered, arrived safely in Cleveland. The vessel encountered a heavy gale soon after leaving Buffalo, and put into Erie until the storm moderated.——Miss Clara Weaver drowned her children and herself in Buckeye Creek, near Fultonham.——About sixty feet of the state dam across the Hudson river, at Troy, gave way, and the timbers were carried a hundred yards down stream.——Graduating exercises were held at West Point.——Butler Lowry, a real estate dealer, made an assignment in Chicago, with estimated liabilities of $80,000. The assets are said to be in excess of that amount.——A receiver was appointed for the Harvey World's Fair Hotel and Harvey Home Improvement Companies in Chicago.——William E. Mitchell, a jealous husband, shot at his wife and her mother in the vestibule of a church in Boston.——Bandit Sontag was mortally wounded in a fight with officers near Visalia, Cal.

HONORING OUR FLAG.

Celebration of the Anniversary of the Stars and Stripes.

For the first time in American history, there was a general celebration in Philadelphia of the anniversary of the adoption by Congress, June 14, 1777, of the Stars and Stripes. The historic dwelling 239 Arch street, where Betsy Ross made the first flag, was handsomely decorated with flags and bunting. Members of the Colonial Dames, with whom the idea of a commemoration of the day originated, distributed 3,000 flags to school children at the above mentioned house. The children then marched to Independence Square, where patriotic songs were sung and appropriate addresses made. In every school in Philadelphia the story of how the first flag wsa made was told, and the "Star-spangled Banner" and other National anthems were sung. Buildings on all the principal streets of the city were liberally decorated.

A DEATH TRAP.

Shocking Tragedy in the Old Ford Theatre, Washington.

22 KILLED AND 50 WOUNDED.

The Condemned Structure Used as a Pension Office Adjunct Collapses Without Warning---Financial Relief for the Widows and Orphans---Cleveland's Check.

At 9 o'clock Friday morning the five hundred clerks of the record and pension division of the office of the surgeon-general of the United States Army, quartered in the old Ford's Theatre building, on Tenth street, went to work at their desks as usual, while down in the basement a number of workmen engaged in making an excavation for an electric-lighting plant, were undermining the foundations of the structure. Suddenly and without a moments warning, just as the work of the day was getting under headway in the rooms above, one of the supports of the strengthening columns in the building was disturbed just enough to weaken it so as to let the enormous weight of the iron girders and brick-arched floors above it fall in a mass to the cellar.

In the pile of debris that filled all the lower part of the building lay one-third of the men who had been at work at their desks a few moments before. Twenty-two of them are dead and fifty lie writhing on beds of pain.

The walls of the building stood apparently as firm as ever, but inside everything was a complete wreck. Great iron girders were twisted and broken as though they had been reeds, and over all lay great heaps of brick and mortar, while here and there a mangled bleeding human form could be seen, covered with dust, and in many cases with the face so bruised and filled with the fragments of brick and mortar as to be almost unrecognizable. Here and there over the ruins could be heard the groans of the men who were lying in the agony of death, imprisoned by the weights on top of them.

There was no delay in the work of rescuing the wounded and recovering the bodies of the dead. Willing hands of volunteers did the first work, and they were soon supplemented by the trained work of firemen, policemen and soldiers. Ambulances carrying the wounded alternated with the wagons of undertakers carrying the dead to the morgue, while there was a constant procession of cars carrying away the brick and mortar that were carried out of the building.

The President was informed of the sad event just as he reached the entrance to the White House by one of the clerks, and he at once interested himself in relief measures.

The news of the accident spread rapidly to every part of the city, and such scenes of excitement followed as has not been witnessed here since President Garfield was shot down by Guiteau. The scene of the accident was quickly surrounded by a crowd that pressed hard upon the ropes stretched by the police to keep the street clear.

Mingled with the curious spectators were relatives and friends of the clerks who had been employed in the building. There were women frantic with grief, and when a body would be brought from the building they would press forward, intent on seeing whether they could recognize the features of a husband, brother or father. In many instances they were so overcome by the heart-rending scenes about them that they were sent home by the police in carriages that were kept waiting to carry off the more slightly wounded.

There were several joyous meetings on the sidewalk opposite the building, when wives who feared their husbands were among the ruins found they had escaped safely or with only slight injuries.

The responsibility for the accident will be difficult to place. It is primarily, of course, the fault of Congress that suitable quarters are not provided for government employes and that buildings unsuitable for such uses and suspected of being unsafe, like the building which fell to-day, the government printing office and the Winder Building, occupied by the second auditor's office, are kept in use.

The work in the basement of the building does not seem to have been under the direction of any officer of the government with a knowledge of architecture. Colonel Ainsworth, chief of the records and pension division, had the building under his immediate control. He is one of the most competent officials in the government service, and he has made the record and pension division the model of efficiency and excellent work among all the offices in Washington. He is not an architect however, but a surgeon in the army, and, though he had the work of excavating under his personal supervision, and visited it to see that nothing had been done to weaken the foundation of the building he could not be expected to have sufficient knowledge of such matters to enable him to pass upon the question of whether the work being done was of such a character as to make the building unsafe.

The Work of Rescue.

A general fire alarm was turned in a few minutes after the crash, and then all the ambulances in the city were summoned. As quickly as possible the police and firemen formed a rescue brigade, and ready hands assisted them to take out the killed and wounded. In less than an hour about twenty-five people had been taken out, and every few minutes thereafter some still form would be borne on a stretcher from the building. Police and army ambulances, cabs, carriages and vehicles of every description were pressed into service for taking away the dead and injured. All the hospitals in the city were utilized in caring for the injured and scores of physicians volunteered their services for this work.

The commissioners of the District of Columbia took possession of the building and vicinity in person and helped direct the police and the rescuers. Colonel Corbin, assistant adjutant-general of the army, was sent by Major-General Schofield to represent the War Department and to decide if it were necessary to call out troops. Owing to excellent police regulations the rescuers were not hindered in their work by the anxious crowds, and it was not long before the debris had been cleared away to such an extent that the work of rescue could be carried on without hindrance.

Both the military and naval authorities took prompt action. General Schofield ordered two troops of cavalry from Fort Meyer, just across the river, and two companies of infantry from the arsenal to the scene of the disaster.

The Secretary of the Navy ordered out all the naval medical offices stationed here and also opened the Naval Hospital to receive the injured. The commandant at the navy-yard was ordered to render all assistance in his power.

All the carts and workmen that could be secured were pressed into service to clear away the debris. The workmen shoveled plaster, brick, documents and broken furniture into the carts and each load was taken away to a dumping ground near by. There was much danger to the rescuing gangs, for the edges of the fallen floors hung threateningly downward over the heads of the workers.

A number of clergymen utterly regardless of their own safety entered the building and administered to the dying and injured. All creeds were represented.

Cause of the Disaster.

So far the cause of the accident has not been fully determined by the officials, but there seems to be no doubt that an excavation made under the front walls of the building; brought about the catastrophe.

The building is a large one and is entirely without partitions. In order to allow as much space as possible for desk room and also to afford light and ventilation to all parts of the floors, for there are windows only at the front and rear of the building, the floors from top to bottom had only as supports iron columns, which stand about twelve feet apart. At the bottom these columns rested upon piers of stone and brickwork, slight for the weight they supported, but strong enough under ordinary circumstances to have sustained the floors for all time to come had nothing occurred to weaken them.

Across the tops of the columns at each floor iron girders were laid, securely bolted together at the ends. Upon these girders rested the joists of both wood and iron upon which the floors were laid. With a view to making the building fire-proof, the floors were laid on arches of brickwork and cement, which extended from joist to joist.

From the description of the building given it can be seen that in making the excavation the workmen were bound to come in contact with the piers supporting the columns on which the floors of the building rested.

They approached them so carefully, however, and when they were reached added an underpinning to strengthen them in such a manner that the danger of their giving way seemed very remote.

It is now apparent, however, that the piers were weakened and the wreck of the building resulted directly from this cause. But until the disaster occurred there was nothing to indicate its likelihood except the peculiar construction of the building.

Colonel Ainsworth's Views.

Colonel Ainsworth, the chief of the record and pension division, visited the building Thursday night after all work for the day was done, and, accompanied by several employes of his office, descended into the cellar for the purpose of finding out if the contractors were using sufficient precaution in proceeding with the work. He found everything in satisfactory condition and thought the building absolutely safe.

Relief Measures.

The meeting of citizens held in the afternoon to put into operation measures for the relief of the victims of catastrophe was in its results a striking tribute to the power of the press. It was called to order by Commissioner Ross, and Commander Parker chosen to preside. With but little preliminary the purpose of the gathering was achieved in the appointment of a committee of five to canvass the meeting for subscriptions. While this was being done brief addresses were made by B. H. Warner, Rev. William Aloin Bartlett and Smith Thompson, a clerk employed in the collapsed building, and Bishop J. F. Hurst.

The total amount of the subscriptions obtained was announced as about $5,500, the largest being $1,000, from the dry goods firm of Woodward & Lothrop.

President Cleveland, who had been asked to preside over the meeting and was unable to do so because of a pressing official business engagement, sent his check for $100 and Secretary Thurber his for $25.

Several motions were made to continue the work of the meeting by the appointment of a canvassing committee, but it was the sense of the meeting that the newspapers of the city, which had already initiated relief funds could do the work more thoroughly and satisfactorily than any committee, and it was left with them to do it. The committee of five which canvassed the meeting, however, was continued as a disbursing organization, with Mr. S. W. Woodward as treasurer. They will make allotments of money subscribed, and report through the papers when their work has been completed.

LAUNCH OF A BATTLESHIP.

The Massachusetts Christened by Miss Leila Herbert.

The big battleship Massachusetts was successfully launched from the shipyard of the Cramps in Philadelphia, Pa., in the presence of Secretary of the Navy Herbert, Attorney-General Olney, the latter representing the state of Massachusetts, a number of distinguished naval and army officers and a multitude of 15,000. Miss Leila Herbert, daughter of the head of the Naval Department, christened the vessel with the customary and prettily decorated bottle of champagne.

The Washington party came on a special train. The weather was pleasant. The sun was shining bright and clear, but its warmth was tempered with gentle, cool breezes.

The big hull had received the last touches of a coat of white paint above the water line, and of deep red below, and lowered on the ways all ready to be sent overboard as soon as the tide should be at its flood. When this arrived, the supports were cut away, and as the vessel began to move, Miss Herbert gracefully broke the bottle on the ship's prow and christened her the "Massachusetts."

By her own momentum, the latest addition to Uncle Sam's navy slid gracefully down the greased incline and dashed into the Delaware river. When she reached mid-stream, lines were thrown to tugs, and the large craft was soon made fast to the wharves where are also moored the cruisers New York and Columbia, and the ship-of-war Indiana.

A naval battalion, consisting of 125 men and divided into two companies, participated in the ceremonies. One company acted as escort to the guests and stood guard at the launching stand, and, when the launch was effected, cleared the way to the cruiser New York, on which the second company, with a band, was stationed to salute the Massachusetts as she took to the water. When the guests had boarded the cruiser, the entire battalion acted as the crew and saluted the Secretary of the Navy's flag as it was raised. The dignitaries inspected the New York, and after banqueting in the office of the Cramps, returned to Washington on the special train which had conveyed them hither.

The big warship left the ways a minute or so before the expected time, but no accident of any kind occurred. The warm weather had softened the tallow, and the vessel slid into the river before the three forward keel blocks on the sole piece had been loosened.

Miss Herbert, the fair christener, was attired in a becoming costume of black Brussels net, and wore a small black hat trimmed with crushed roses.

THE MOLD BROKE.

An Accident Postpones the Casting of the New Liberty Bell.

The casting of the Columbian Liberty Bell, which was to take place in Troy, N. Y., has been indefinitely postponed, owing to an unfortunate accident.

The heavy oaken beam by which the mold was suspended gave way. The heavy mass dropped upon the core, rendering it unfit for use in casting a perfect bell. The breaking of the beam was caused by a flaw in the wood. It is probable that the casting will occur in about two weeks. Mrs. Cleveland was notified of the accident by telegraph.

The committee in charge adopted resolutions urging the celebration of the Fourth of July next as Liberty Bell Day at the World's Fair.

WORK AND WORKERS.

ABOUT 100 hod carriers of Wilkesbarre, Pa., went on strike for an increase of wages.

STEPS have been taken for a general reduction in the force of employes of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

SEVENTY furniture factories in Cincinnati, Ohio, have shut down, throwing 5,000 men out of employment.

THE eighteenth annual convention of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers was held in Pittsburg.

Two hundred and fifty men in the mechanical department of the Standard Oil Company at Whiting, Indiana, have struck for a day of nine hours, with ten hours' pay.

THE works of the Domestic Sewing Machine Company, at Newark, New Jersey, were closed, 700 hands being thrown out of work. There was no money to pay the employes.

A COMMITTEE of the Ohio Valley Manufacturers' Association was in conference at Pittsburg with the iron wage committee of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers. No result was reached.

THE lace weavers of the Patchogue Lace Mills, at Patchogue, Long Island, are on a strike against a proposed reduction of 20 per cent. in their wages. The strike involves about 250 men. The weavers have been earning from $25 to $30 per week.

COMMITTEES of the iron manufacturers and the Finishers' Union of the Mahoning and Shenango Valleys met in Youngstown to arrange the rate for the coming year. No agreement was reached, the manufacturers desiring a reduction of about 10 per cent. on billets. The Secretary of the Amalgamated Association said the action of the finishers would have no bearing on the Amalgamated scale.

RED PEPPER AND DIAMONDS.

A Clever Thief Gets Away with a One Hundred Dollar Gem.

Shortly after noon a well-dressed, heavy-set stranger, apparently 30 or 35 years of age, 5 feet 7 inches in height, walked into Joseph Daller's jewelry store on Vine street, Cincinnati. After selecting a $100 diamond stud he threw red pepper in the proprietor's eyes and made off.

He is believed to be a professional and has not been apprehended.

A FOG VEILED THE FAIR.

The Gates Were Open. But The Morning Was Gloomy.

Priceless Laces Sent by the Queen of Italy Missing.

A despatch from Chicago says: The uncertainty regarding the Sunday opening of the Fair kept early attendance down to a low mark. Chief Justice Fuller's action in granting the supersedeas was not made known far enough away from Chicago in time to bring a good crowd of countrymen, and as a result sight-seers were for the most part Chicagoans.

The morning was damp and cold, a heavy fog blew in from the lake, hiding the towers and minarets of the great buildings, and making heavy overcoats almost a necessity. Along about one o'clock the sun came out warm, however, dispersing the mists and rendering the afternoon bright and pleasant. The crowds began to come about two o'clock and from that hour until dark every mode of transportation was tested to its fullest capacity. The attendance for the day was good, exceeding that of last Sunday.

Considerable work was done in Manufactures Building behind the drawn curtains of some of the exhibits. The doors to the Japanese pavilion, in the north end of the building, were barred, and two guards stood on watch outside. Everything in the English section was shut up, while her neighbor, France, across the wide aisle had thrown her gates wide open, as usual. Everything in the German section was in its every-day appearance, but half of Austria's display was concealed by long white curtains. Behind all the curtained departments, however, men were busily engaged in dressing windows and arranging displays, to render them, if possible, more attractive.

Work in the Spanish Section.

A large force of men had possession of the Spanish section in the big hall, and they were working hard under the supervision of the assistant commissioner. It is the intention of the Spaniards to have their displays in readiness in two or three days, and then give a reception to the Infanta. The only building on the grounds that were crowded were the Convent of Larabida and the Krupp gun exhibit. These structures are small, but they were jammed all day by never-ending crowds of people, who walked almost to the extreme southern portion of the grounds to see the treasures they contained. The free band concerts began at three o'clock. The programs of sacred and popular selections, were liberally applauded.

Director-General Davis has issued an order that no exhibits or instructive material will be allowed to enter the grounds under any circumstances if intended for display. The Director-General says all permanent exhibits are now in place in all buildings with one or two exceptions.

Rare Laces Missing.

A startling disclosure was made at the World's Fair grounds when the priceless laces sent here by Queen Margharetta, of Italy, was unpacked. While the laces were being taken out of their cases, and each piece counted, it was found that thirty pieces were missing. Cablegrams were immediately sent to Rome apprising the Queen of her great loss; for it seems, as developments thus far indicate, that the loss will not fall upon the Exposition Company, their bond not covering the safety of the laces in transit. An effort was made to keep the discovery a secret, but the custom officers divulged the startling news.

These rich possessions, out of reverence for the memory of her countryman, the discoverer of America, Queen Margharetta consented to send to Chicago for the Fair. She sent a noble, trusted lady, the Countess di Brazza, to watch and guard her treasures, and the government of the United States gave a bond of $100,000 to guarantee their safe return to Italy.

Ex-President Harrison will spend several days in Chicago this week seeing the sights of the Exposition, and during the stay will be the guest of President Palmer. The attendance was about 75 000.

THE SOUVENIR QUARTERS.

The Coining of Them Began at the Philadelphia Mint.

The coinage of the Columbian souvenir quarter-dollars was begun at the United States Mint in Philadelphia by Coiner Steel, in the presence of Acting Superintendent M. H. Cobb and the engraver. Foreman Downing, of the coining room, had everything in readiness shortly before one o'clock, and on the stroke of the hour the first piece was struck. It came from the press an excellent specimen, and fully up to the superior class of work done at the mint. All the lines in the portrait and figures were closely defined. Mr. Steel delivered to Mr. Cobb the first 400 1492 and 1892 pieces, and that official will forward them to the Board of Lady Managers of the World's Fair, with certificates stating that they are such. The remainder of the 40,000 pieces, coined, all of which will be "proof," will be kept at the mint until an order shall be received from Washington ordering their transfer to the Woman's Department of the Columbian Exposition.

The design of the coin is very pretty, and exceeds in beauty that of the Columbian half-dollar. The obverse side represents the head of Queen Isabella of Spain, wearing the crown of Castile, while on the reverse side is a woman kneeling by the side of a distaff. Hundreds of orders for the new coins have been received at the mint, offering one dollar apiece for them, but all would-be purchasers are referred to the World's Fair Committee at Chicago.

ROBBERS USE THE GAG.

They Loot a Home at Pulaski While the Owner was Helpless.

Just at dusk the other evening three men called at the residence of W. D. Byers at Pulaski, Pa., and got Byers from the house. Then two pistols were placed against his face and he was ordered to throw up his hands. The men then bound and gagged him, after which they pushed him into an old shed.

They entered the house and ransacked it from top to bottom, first tying Mrs. Byers and others members of the family to beds and chairs. The thieves secured a revolver and only $3 in money.

It was daybreak before one of the members of the family could untie himself and liberate the others.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS.

IT appears that much of the work of towing the Columbus caravels to Chicago will be done by Canadian contractors. The tow will cost about $7,000.

GEORGE KENNAN is being made the object of great newspaper attention in London, where his work is almost as well known as in America. Last week he was the chief guest at a dinner of a considerable group of the younger literary men in London.

THE condition of Senator Colquitt, of Georgia, is improving, and is not now of a sort to cause serious concern. The feeling of returning health makes him more than usually alive to passing events, and he expects to be ready for duty at the next roll-call of the Senate.

THE new Harvard Catholic association elected as its president a descendant of Thomas Addis Emmett, brother of the young Irish patriot whose "epitaph is yet unwritten." Mr. Emmett, who is a New Yorker, is a member of the senior class, and is president also of the Hasty Pudding Club.

RUDYARD KIPLING's father has been forced by reason of ill-health to resign his government post at Lahore. Kipling *pere* is the author of a book called "Man and Beast in India." But his best-known contribution to literature is his designation of Lahore as "Hell with the Lid On."

THE school of applied ethics will not hold a session at Plymouth, Mass., this summer. One reason is that that the World's Fair congresses at Chicago in this general line of study will attract attention to this quarter, and another is that the managers of the school wish for time to put it on a more permanent and enlarged basis.

REV. THEODORE C. PEASE, of Malden, who has been chosen by the trustees of Andover Theological Seminary to the Bartlett professorship of sacred rhetoric, lately occupied by President Tucker of Dartmouth college, is not widely known by the general public. He was graduated at Harvard in 1[illegible]75 and from Andover in 1880, and is vouched for as a competent man.

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

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

For Sale By J. S. GRIFFITH, and Leading Grocers of Easton

CABLE SPARKS.

AN outbreak of hostilities in Samoa is expected.

A CONGRESS of military unions at Baden has decided in favor of the army bill.

GERMANY'S finance minister, Miquel, says he is opposed to the imposition of an imperial income tax.

IT is said that the Czarewitch of Russia has been betrothed to Princess Alice, of Hesse Darmstadt.

THE Budapesth express train was wrecked at Kelskemet, Hungary, and 22 persons were injured, many of them fatally.

THE regulations proposed by the United States for seal-hunting in Bering sea are distasteful to the British counsel.

THERE has been but little change in the condition of affairs in Honolulu, according to advices received at San Francisco.

THE episcopal jubilee money received by the Pope amounted to 9,060,000 francs, of which 600 000 came from America.

THE Italian government has taken steps to punish the bank plunderers. The manager of the Bank of Naples has confessed his guilt.

COUNT ZINZKI declares that the race track incident in Vienna, in which he rode down his trainer, was due to a fractious and uncontrolable horse.

PEOPLE are said to be dying by thousands from cholera in the valley of the Tigris, and fugitives from the afflicted towns are spreading the epidemic through Turkey.

THE journals recognized as organs of the Vatican concer in denying that the Pope has modified his scholastic policy heretofore enunciated in regard to the United States.

REV. THOMAS SPURGEON arrived in San Francisco from New Zealand. He will hold a two week's revival at Chicago with Mr. Moody before proceeding to take charge of the London Tabernacle.

THE discovery of dynamite bombs near the residence of the ex-Queen of the Sandwich Islands has occasioned great alarm at Honolulu, where, it is said, a plot existed to blow up the government barracks.

TRAIN ROBBERS IN ILLINOIS.

They Attack and Rifle an Express Car on the M. and O Railroad.

Six masked men held up the New Orleans express on the Mobile and Ohio Railroad at Forest Lawn, eight miles north of Columbia, Ill., at nine o'clock p. m., and robbed the express car of $10,000 in cash and valuables worth a large amount. The robbery did not occupy over 20 minutes' time. A large posse is now in pursuit of the bandits.

The express made a short stop at Forest Lawn, and two men jumped upon the engine and pointing revolvers at the heads of the engineer and fireman, told them not to attempt to start the train again. While this was taking place four men appeared at the side of the express car. One of them placed a short ladder against the car and then chopped a hole in the door, by means of which entrance was gained. Messenger Branford attempted resistance, but was silenced with a blow with the hatchet. He was only partially stunned by the blow, and his assailants revived him and forced him to open the safe. Its contents they placed in a sack and Branford was then bound, gagged and cast into a corner of the car. The conductor and several of the trainmen opened fire on the robbers and they returned it hotly, though none of the bullets, so far as known, took effect.

FIRE IN THE EXPOSITION.

A Portion of the French Exhibit Destroyed.

What might have been a disastrous fire was extinguished by prompt work of the firemen in Transportation Building at 5 o'clock p. m. A guard saw fire climbing up a draped post in the exhibit of the Trans-Atlantic French Mail Line steamers in the gallery and turned in an alarm, at the same time trying to extinguish the blaze.

When the firemen arrived the blaze had reached the overhanging streamers and was rapidly approaching the adjoining sections, which are separated only by wooden partitions. The fire was extinguished, however, in a few minutes, but it necessitated the throwing of water, which did considerable damage. The exhibit contained many handsome paintings of steamship scenes, worth $75,000, and some books. It is impossible to estimate the damage, as the paintings will have to dry to show the extent to which they were harmed.

H. Dow, the guard, was badly burned about the neck and was taken to the hospital.

HAWKINS ON THE WARPATH.

A Desperado Raises a Racket in an Indiana Town.

Babe Hawkins, the desperado, with a gang of thirty men, armed to the teeth, surprised the town of Shelbyville, Ind., by appearing on the streets for the purpose of avenging the death of his brother, Charles Hawkins, who was lynched a year ago for shooting the city marshal. He first met ex-Sheriff James McGill and informed him of his mission, and then started on a hunt for ex-Sheriff McDougall, whom he said he would kill on sight. They met on a corner, and a desperate struggle ensued. McGill rushed on the scene, and was felled by Hawkins, who blew his whistle, which brought his thirty men to the rescue.

A melee followed, and in the rush McDougall's leg was broken and several knife wounds were inflicted on him. Citizens came out by hundreds and a general fight followed. Ex-Sheriff McGill was stamped into unconsciousness and is in a critical condition. McDougall held on to Hawkins until he was disarmed and in the custody of the officers. Babe Hawkins' wife also waded into the fight with a knife. The officers hurried Hawkins off to the City Court. Over five hundred men gathered at the scene, and a lynching was feared.

FARGO'S FIERCE FIRE.

Three Thousand People Homeless and Thee Million Lost.

A despatch from Fargo, N. D., says: The sun rose Thursday morning upon a city half of which is in ashes. Three thousand people were made homeless by the great conflagration.

The schoolhouses, churches and public buildings left standing were all utilized as places of shelter for women and children, and it cannot said one of the hundreds driven out by the flames suffered for want of shelter.

The good women of the town turned out in force and organized to feed the unfortunate ones. Relief trains with meat, flour and other provisions began to arrive. Minneapolis, St. Paul, Chicago, Duluth and Milwaukee and other big cities will send liberal contributions of food. Clothing is much needed.

All night the people were in a panic, as the flames seemed not to diminish and the sky was lit up by the great fire. The relief corps organized received many reports of people who are missing, and without doubt it will develop a number of lives have been lost.

The firemen might as well have fought againt Niagara as to battle with the flames, which, driven by a fierce south gale, swept through the city like a prairie fire.

The statement is given out that at a meeting of insurance men they estimated the loss of insured property at $2,500,000, and $500,000 more on residences in the outskirts uninsured.

Rates have been so high that but little property is insured for over one-third of its value. The feeling of confidence appeared much stronger as the day advanced. A number of business men have already made arrangements to have gangs of men commence clearing away the debris from the lots, and have given architects orders to get out plans for new buildings.

MARYLAND STATE NEWS.

The Latest Happenings in Various Parts of the State.

GREAT activity is being shown by the farmers of Prince George's county in their efforts to make a large tobacco crop. The early spring season was especially favorable for plowing, and an unusually large area was prepared for tobacco. The plants have been abundant and the weather during May and so far in June was favorable for planting them. The cutworm has been quite destructive in some sections, but the young plants are standing well, however. Some growers have set out as high as from 80,000 to 100,000 plants.

NEWTON SMITH, aged twenty-five years, employed at the Singerly Pulp and Paper Mill, was badly scalded about the face and eyes by the explosion of a soda ash furnace He was removed to his home in Elkton and medical aid summoned. It is the opinion of his physician that he will lose the sight of both eyes.

THE scaffold on which Pinkney and Barber will be hanged on June 30th is completed. It was made by Benjamin Randall, of Forestville, Prince George's county, and can be seen from the turnpike that leads to Washington. The plan of a scaffold in the Washington jail was followed.

THE barn and stable on the farm of John Biggs, between Sudlersville and Millington, were destroyed by fire. The contents, consisting of provender, agricultural implements, harness and a horse were consumed. The origin of the fire is unknown.

MR. G. FRANCIS CLINGAN died at his residence, in Frederick, after a brief illness from paralysis. He was in his sixtieth year and was a brother of Mr. Louis S. Clingan.

MR. MERRITT S. MCNAMEE has been appointed associate judge of the Orphans' Court for Cecil county, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Jas. M. Evans. Mr. McNamee was a former school teacher, and was also at one time president of the board of county commissioners.

LOYAL Council, Junior Order of American Mechanics, are considering the question of building a fine new hall in Belair. Their idea is to have a double-story building, 30 by 60 feet, and use the upper room for lodge work, with the lower floor adapted to the uses of public assemblies. Such a building, it is thought, could be constructed for $3,000.

THE people of Oakland propose to have an old-time celebration on the Fourth of July. The Junior Order American Mechanics has taken the lead in the matter and the entire town is now enthusiastic on the subject. Forty-three organizations have been invited and the most of them will participate. An old-fashioned basket picnic will be held in the grove at the east end. Patriotic addresses will be delivered and a platform will be erected where the young people who feel inclined may dance if they desire to do so. There will be other attractions and amusements to entertain the people. There will be a number of brass bands and a magnificent display of fireworks at night. The merchants and business men have subscribed liberally and they propose to make the day one to be remembered in the history of Oakland.

THERE is great complaint among the farmers and cattlemen in some sections of Garrett county on account of a disease which has attacked the cattle. A great many cattle are dying and the disease is believed to be an infectious murrain, and fears are entertained that it may spread and become very serious. A number of cattle have died near Swanton.

SOUTHERN NEWS ITEMS.

THE annual meeting of the stockholders of the Florida fruit exchange was held in Jacksonville. Several hundred orange-growers of the State were present. The annual report of the president, Major G. R. Fairbanks, of Fernandina, showed the growth of the industry in Florida has increased from 600,000 boxes, in 1885, to 3,900,000 boxes for the season just closed. The average net price to growers at the nearest railroad or steamboat station has been $1.31 per box, an increase of nearly 20 per cent over the average of the previous year.

A CREVASSE occurred on the lower coast forty miles from New Orleans, on the left bank. From reports received it was about fifteen feet wide, and prompt work averted a disaster. Some new light has been thrown on the situation in the La Fourche district by Gen. N. Whitehead, a planter in that section. All the way from Thibodeaux to Bayou Glen the country was settled by small farmers who had cultivated their places and had good crops upon them. No extensive plantations were to be found in the stretch of country referred to, but it was generally settled with large families on all the places. Those people have lost nearly all they had from the overthrow, and are actually in need of assistance in some cases. A large amount of territory on Bayou Terrebonne is now under water, and here also people have lost heavily.

BOB BROWN, the negro murderer, was hanged at Mayfield, Ky. The crime for which Brown suffered the death penalty was the murder of Albert Colley, a well-to-do farmer. During his career Brown had shot two white and three colored men. He was twenty-seven years old and has played the role of a desperado every since he located in Mayfield two years ago. Colley and Brown had an altercation concerning a woman and the negro shot the white man.

L. A. DUMAS, a young colored man was lynched at Gleason, a railway station nine miles east of Dresden, Tenn., for assaulting the daughter of a farmer living two miles from the village. He made a full confession.

THE Louisiana Cypress Lumber Company went in the hands of a receiver, the result of the recent depression of the money market. The assets of the company are nominally $300,000, with indebtedness probably of $200,000. Judge Billings appointed as receiver Pearl Willett, placing his bond at $50,000.

HOUSES CRUSHED.

Torrent Caused by a Cloud-Burst at a Mexican Mining Camp.

A cloud-burst at San Jose de Gracia Mining Camp, in Pueblo, caused a rush of water which tore up trees and carried along hugh fragrants of rock.

Some houses in its course were crushed in, burying the inmates. Houses which resisted the torrent quickly filled with water, and the people in them had to escape from the upper stories on rudely fashioned rafts.

The surviving inhabitants have taken refuge on the mountain sides. Relief has been forwarded by the State Government.

WHEN General Dodds received his brevet during his campaign in Dahomey he was unable to procure there the four silver stars that, stitched in the uniform, are a sign of the general's rank. He therefore made use of silver coins as a substitute and the only ones he could obtain were English shillings bearing the queen's head.