WASHINGTON GOSSIP.

MEN AND AFFAIRS AT THE NATIONAL CAPITAL.

EX-SENATOR PALMER'S AMBITIONS—HOPEFUL FOR THE WORLD'S FAIR—THE MORMON TROUBLE AND EX-GOVERNOR MURRAY'S REMEDY—TWO OLD CABINET MEMBERS IN WASHINGTON.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Ex-Senator Palmer, the president of the Chicago Fair Commission, who is now in Washington, speaks in the most glowing terms of the future of the Fair. He says it will be an overwhelming success. All the local differences are now settled. He is overrun with propositions from all the cranks of the country, proposing schemes and plans for the Fair. I asked him if he was annoyed by the unusual demand upon his attention from this class. He said it amused him and offered him a most agreeable occupation. The ex-Senator has an armor of good-nature which is an absolute protection against every form of assault. No one ever saw him in a bad temper. No greater proof of his evenness can be given than is shown in the way he has met the protests here of the representatives of the Women's Industrial League, because no working women were placed upon the ladies' part of the commission. The ex-Senator has a most fortunate disposition for the management of such an enterprise. There is no argument which can be made against a smiling good-nature which concedes everything and yet in the end gives nothing. Mr. Palmer is dark as a Spaniard. He has a large head, deep black eyes, a large hook-nose, and an aquiline featured face, set off by an iron-gray mustache and imperial. He permits one to understand that he is inclined to indolence. Indeed, he rather encourages that impression. Yet this is the reverse of the truth. He is energetic, and looks sharply after his own interests. He is currently supposed to have no political ambitions, and yet underneath he is one of the most ambitious men in the United States. He would laugh at any one who would charge him with having Presidential ambitions, but that is the guiding star of the ex-Senator's life. He is a thoroughly upright man and has a large fortune. His knowledge of the world and his skill in entertaining will make him a most popular feature of the National Fair. Whether his political fortunes will be advanced or not will depend upon the brilliancy of its success.

General Murray, former Governor of Utah and the dashing cavalry commander under Sherman on his March to the Sea, is spending the winter in Washington. He is now a resident of California. This stalwart Kentucky Republican shows but little trace of the many fights he has been through. He made the only real fight that was ever made in Utah against the Mormon Church. In that office he sacrificed his means and several years of the most valuable period in a man's life in a successful struggle with one of the most powerful political and financial organizations in this country. General Murray has the look of a fighter. He is over six feet in height. His figure has all the trim lines of a young officer in the active service. His close-fitting, well-made black clothes further contribute to the military appearance of this ex-cavalry general. His short, curling hair is still dark. His forehead is broad and high, his eyes are dark and his nose has the sharp aquiline form of a combatant. The lower part of his face is covered by a mustache and a short beard, now showing signs of gray. He surprised me by saying that the Mormon Church is stronger to-day than ever. This is in marked contrast to the current sentiment upon the subject. There is a vague belief among the people who have given the subject any attention that the Mormon Church had abandoned polygamy and that the Edmunds law had been able practically to stamp out its last traces in the Territory of Utah. General Murray says that polygamy flourishes to-day as it did in the past. The law is evaded in every way. It was only the other day in the open courts that a Mormon, who was being prosecuted for a polygamous marriage, was confronted with the evidence of the birth of a child in proof of the second marriage. The Mormon was able to show that the child was begotten in Colorado and so the prosecution in Utah fell. In other words, any Mormon to-day can have a wife in any one of the adjoining Territories, and, in fact, any number of wives, without laying himself liable under the Edmunds law to prosecution in Utah. To prosecute him in the various Territories or the plural marriages that he may see fit to make is at present impracticable.

General Murray says, however, that polygamy is the smallest objectionable feature of the Mormon Church. The attempt to stamp it out without going to the heart of the matter is like a physician treating a patient for some minor malady when some disease is attacking his vitals. He says that the overshadowing feature of the Mormon Church is the fact that it inculcates the doctrine of the supremacy of the Church in every walk of life over the Government. It is a compact organization which is in constant rebellion to the authorities. He does not believe in distributing any religious organization in worshipping according to its honest belief. But when such belief becomes the basis of a gigantic political conspiracy, he would so adjust the administration of its affairs as to make such political rebellion impotent.

I asked Governor Murray for the remedy. I asked him if he did not think that the gradual approach of modern civilization would in the end do away with Mormonism. He said it would have as much effect as the dropping of water upon a granite rock. The rock might be worn away in time, but that it would take centuries to produce such a result. His remedy is simple. He would have a legislative council appointed by the President of the United States, and this council should be sent to the Senate for confirmation. All things relating to the administration of affairs in the Territory should be in the hands of this council. He did not believe in having men connected with the administration of affairs in the Territory who believed that any Church authority was superior to that of the United States. No man of that belief should ever be allowed to hold any kind of office under the Government. He would have the Mormon delegate removed from the floor of Congress. He says that this experiment of governing a Territory by a legislative council was originally tried in the Territory of Louisiana when it was first purchased from France. It was thought at that time that the large foreign population could not be trusted with the administration of its affairs. The same experiment was tried afterward in the Territory of Michigan. In the District of Columbia, for good and sufficient reasons, the local legislature has been abolished with the office of delegate in Congress. The change has worked well. Such a change in Utah would in time negative the powerful political and even rebellious influences of the Mormon Church organization. But there is no one in Congress at present who appears to be actuated by any motive beyond that of personal interest. The Mormon lobby was never so strong as it is now, and so the settlement of the vexed question of Mormonism will be probably postponed for some time. Ex-Governor Murray thinks that in another way the growing strength of the Mormons could be checked by an order at Castle Garden. The Mormons who come over are assisted emigrants, and should not be allowed to land. The authority to send them back is in the existing law. The ex-Governor has the satisfaction of knowing that the Supreme Court has affirmed the correctness of all of his decisions as Governor while in Utah, that is, all decisions from which appeals were made.

Among the visitors in Washington are two ex-members of the Cabinet. One is General Bristow, and the other is ex-Secretary Thompson, of Indiana. General Bristow is a shade stouter than when he began his fight against the Whiskey Ring under Grant, but otherwise he does not look older. A friend who saluted him and asked about the old Whiskey Ring fight was gravely informed by General Bristow that the man who conducted that campaign was his grandfather, thereby indicating the tremendous cycle of time, so far as experience is concerned, since he has become a citizen of New-York. Mr. Thompson also shows but little sign of advancing age. He is as erect and alert as ever. He was out for a little promenade upon the avenue yesterday, and was met everywhere with outstretched hands. The two men looked much better in color than any of the Washington officials, which shows that private life has its rewards as well as official life. Mr. Thompson was the Secretary of the Navy who started the plan of educating American boys to become sailors in the Navy. He is an enthusiast over the Navy which is now being constructed.

T. C. CRAWFORD.

NOTES OF THE STAGE.

Mr. Willard, at Palmer's Theatre, will present the fine drama of "Judah," on December 29.

Mr. Palmer will lay aside "A Pair of Spectacles," at the Madison Square Theatre, soon after the holidays, and will present Miss Rosina Vokes.

Lawrence Barrett comes to the Broadway Theatre on January 5, 1891, as Cardinal.

"Aunt Jack" will be presented at the Harlem Opera House this week, by A. M. Palmer's travelling company, which has been popular wherever it has appeared since the beginning of the season.

"The Soudan," which is having a long run at the Boston Theatre, issues souvenirs with almost bewildering rapidity. The third one, marking the 100th performance, last Wednesday evening, has now come to hand. It is a large photograph of the characters in the play taken in a group. The cast is printed on the back.

Herrmann will give the first public presentation of his new trick, "strobeka," this evening. "Claudius Nero" will begin an engagement at the Broadway Theatre, and "My Aunt Bridget" will take its place at Niblo's Garden. "Later On" will be presented at the Grand Opera House, and "The Silent Partner" at the Columbus Theatre.

Tony Pastor's own company comes back to the home theatre this evening, bringing its usual elements of popularity with it.

MARGARET MATHER SEEKING A DIVORCE.

Much comment and some amusement was created in theatrical circles yesterday by the story that Margaret Mather intended to sue for a limited divorce from her husband, Emil Haberkorn. The news was not altogether unexpected, in view of the fact that the couple have been separated for a year. Miss Mather first met Mr. Haberkorn about four years ago, and their marriage in Buffalo was a great surprise to their friends. He was at the time leading the orchestra in her company. Mr. Haberkorn afterward accompanied his wife on her tour and looked after her business interests. A year ago he left his wife and went to Los Angeles "for the benefit of his lungs." They have remained apart since then.

"It is true that I am seeking a divorce from Mr. Haberkorn," said Miss Mather yesterday; "but I do not care to talk about it. There is nothing discreditable in the differences that have arisen between us, not even the semblance of anything approaching scandal. It is a simple question of incompatibility and nothing more. We have found that it will be better to make a final and complete separation. The plea that I should make now rests on the ground of action is indefinite. I fear now discovered that I had made an error in being married."

TOO MUCH HEAT IN THE BRIDGE CARS.

The managers of the East River Bridge evidently did not read the papers yesterday morning. At all events, they did not seem to be aware that a warm wave was on its way and likely to arrive here at any hour. They made all their preparations for a continuance of the cold which struck this neighborhood on Saturday, and about noon the heat in some of the cars was almost unendurable. Not a few of the passengers took refuge from it on the platforms, which, in spite of the wind which whistled through the network of ropes on the river span, were far preferable to the overheated cars. In spite of the high temperature, the trainmen persisted in closing the car doors at both ends, when leaving the east door open would have furnished a little relief to the almost smothering passengers. One of the guards, who advised by a passenger to open the doors after he had shut them, did so with considerable reluctance.

"It ain't possible to please everybody," he said. "Ten to one some one will complain if I leave them open."

"But it is as hot as an oven in there," said the passenger.

"You think so, I know," responded the trainman, "but everybody ain't of your way of thinking."

However, the passenger was right, for he was found fault on that trip. Indeed, all the other passengers seemed grateful for the little fresh air which the open doors allowed them to get. Perhaps the trainmen would have better success in regulating the temperature of the cars if the latter were provided with thermometers.

A FINE WEEK AT THE TEACHERS' FAIR.

The Teachers' Bazar, at the Lenox Lyceum, will open this afternoon at 1 o'clock. Superintendent Jasper has decided to allow a certain number of the teachers to be present at the fair on this hour each day. The week's programme is full of interest. To-morrow evening the Swedenborg society will sing at the fair. The Arion society will be there on Thursday. The various school trustees of the city will visit the exhibition in a body on one evening next week.

A valuable suggestion has been made by a friend of the public schools, in connection with the present exhibition of the work of the pupils at the fair. The suggestion is that the specimens be preserved as a permanent exhibition in one of the rooms in the new Hall of Education, which will be built in the course of the year. The suggestion has met general approval.

MISS WEAVER'S COMING CONCERT.

Mr. and Mrs. Bagstad, of No. 15 West 12th st., entertained two parties in honor of Miss Mathilde Weaver, the well-known pianist and pupil of Clara Schumann, for a musical entertainment to-morrow evening. Miss Weaver, of the Metropolitan Opera House, Mrs. Amelia Warnick, Mr. Habel Hansen, Valeri Franko and Sophia Maggetti, who will probably be engaged for the 2nd ship, have consented to take part in the concert which will be under the patronage of Mr. and Mrs. Bagstad, the Princess Marina Engelhardt, the Marquise de Lanza, George Huntington, Mrs. Jerome, Mrs. Draughn, Professor Lang, Mrs. Lead, Mrs. Nöel, Mrs. Maley Eastwood and Steinway & Sons.

RUNAWAY TEAM IN A CEMETERY.

Catherine Meisenschuss, of Chilmeade, Hoboken, was buried yesterday in the Weehawken Cemetery. Among those who attended the funeral were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Jordan and Mr. and Mrs. Sabetha. They alighted from the carriage. Just after the four mourners entered the coach to return a carriage came in collision with it and frightened the team attached to the coach and it ran away. All but Mrs. Sabetha succeeded in safely jumping from the coach, but she was too frightened to make the attempt. The team dashed through the cemetery, over graves and through shrubs, until the coach struck a tree and was demolished.

Mrs. Sabetha was much injured about the body and her left arm was broken. She was taken to her home.

SECRETARY WINDOM OFF FOR WASHINGTON.

Secretary Windom remained at the Plaza Hotel until about 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon, when he started for Washington, catching the 3:30 train. He received a few callers, but refused to see reporters.

DR. McGLYNN PRAISES FATHER IGNATIUS.

For nearly two hours last night Dr. McGlynn discussed Father Ignatius and his mission, before a large audience in Cooper Union. His praise of the monk was unlimited.

"I believe," said the speaker, "pretty much all that Father Ignatius does, and probably a great deal more. He does not force upon his listeners things that are not essential to their salvation. It is high time that Father Ignatius and hundreds of others like him should go forth and appeal to the essential religion of all men. God speed Father Ignatius. There is great need to preach to men regardless of creeds. Call upon the innate religion in all men—the religion to do what each man considers his duty."

THIS IS CUCIS FORTIETH DAY OF FASTING.

Succi was thinner than ever yesterday, the thirty-ninth day of his fast. He weighed 107 3-4 pounds, a loss of nearly forty pounds in thirty-nine days. The faster's temperature was normal. His pulse registered sixty-seven, and his respiration was twenty. His bill of fare was miserable for the amount of cracked ice consumed—seventeen ounces. He drank twenty-one ounces of Croton water, sixteen ounces of sulphur water and twenty drops of his elixir.

SECRETARY NOBLE IN OHIO.

Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 14.—Secretary of the Interior Noble arrived here yesterday, to attend the funeral of his brother, on Monday. The Secretary will be joined by his family here to-morrow.

HIS HEAD CRUSHED BY AN IRON BOLT.

Peoria, Ill., Dec. 14.—P. E. King was found dead at the Rock Island Beat in Chillicothe last evening. His head had been crushed in with a bolt of iron about two feet long. The bloody instrument was found lying by his side. King was a mason and came to Chillicothe from Streator a few weeks ago. He drew a large sum of money yesterday, and this may have incited the murder, as his pockets had been rifled.

ODDS AND ENDS OF POLITICS.

A CELL YAWNS FOR GENERAL PALMER'S MAN.

Chicago, Dec. 14 (special).—The Democrats of the state did not appear to realize fully until yesterday the probability that one of their Representatives-elect would be entering upon a sentence of hard labor in the State penitentiary about the time his vote was most needed to send John M. Palmer to the Senate. A veritable panic was created among the Chicago Democrats yesterday by the unexpected conviction of Representative Van Praag's "pal," George Adams, a young English-Canadian, who with others was indicted by the Democratic Bureau of Naturalization to take out fraudulent citizenship papers last October. Adams received five years in the penitentiary from United States Judge Blodgett. It is a part of the sentence that Adams be steadily employed during the confinement. This conviction does not tend to buy up Van Praag's soul, as he is under indictment for having induced Adams and several others of the accused men to commit perjury and obtain their papers.

Decatur, Ill., Dec. 14 (special).—General Palmer's chances for the United States Senatorship are gradually receding as the county lodges of the Farmers' Mutual Benefit Association one by one adopt resolutions calling upon the F. M. B. A. members of the General Assembly to vote for no one but a practical farmer for United States Senator. The Macon County Federation of the F. M. B. A., the Grange and Knights of Labor met yesterday and indorsed the action of the State meeting at Springfield this week by a unanimous vote. President John Hindlay says: "Nine-tenths of the members of the farmers' and labor organizations in the state are strongly in favor of independent state and National political action. A decisive meeting of representatives of all organizations will be held at Springfield, Ill., December 20, when it is expected that the new political party will be formed and given a name. The assurance is given that in no event will the farmers and laboring men of Illinois indorse any movement looking to the election of J. M. Palmer for Senator."

A TALK WITH GENERAL SEWELL.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14 (special).—General William J. Sewell, of New-Jersey, who has just returned from a month's trip in the West, spoke confidently in this city to-night of Ingalls's reelection. "I regard Mr. Ingalls," General Sewell said, "as, perhaps, the finest intellectual organizer in the senate. It would be slow work for him to go back to the law, which, unlike some of the New-England Senators, he has entirely given up. One thing Ingalls might do: his brilliant literary abilities would command for him, if defeated for the senate and he should choose to enter into purely literary or magazine work, the largest salary or emolument of any man in the country. But I think it will be Ingalls's luck to get six years more in the senate."

In regard to Presidential possibilities, General Sewell said that he had heard John R. McPherson named as a strong candidate in the event of a deadlock between the Hill and Cleveland contingents. Of Mr. Harrison he said: "Nobody can deny that he has made a clean administration. It is too early for anybody to predict who will be nominated for the Presidency in 1892, but it is safe to predict that the Democrats will not find a disunited Republican party. We have got the great Northwest to look to, with its rapidly increasing wealth and prosperity, and added to this the instance of the Democrats that he counted on as an adjunct to Republican success in two years. In the face of the late Republican successes I have this to say, that it was best that the Republican defeat should come when it did, in the middle of Harrison's administration."

REPUBLICANS TO CONFER IN CONCORD.

Boston, Dec. 14 (special).—The following dispatch is received by "The Journal" from Concord, N. H.: "It is stated here to-night that the next conference of Republicans which Chairman Churchill will summon will be for the exclusive purpose of considering the subject of the organization of the next House, and that it is probable that prominent Republican members of that body from each of the counties will be invited to attend and participate in the deliberations. The Democrats are decently defiant, renewing from time to time their boast that they will organize at any cost the next legislature. There are dissensions existing in the Republican party, and although none of its members believe that they will lead to serious trouble, yet if there was ever a pressing necessity for wise counsels and constant and united labor it is certainly on the eve of the great battle for political supremacy in the legislature of our state. The plan of the said caucus is understood to be that Colonel Churchill and the members of the Executive Council of the state Committee will confer with invitations entirely to Democratic and prominent members of the several counties. It is possible that the executive members will individually name the journalists in their respective counties as they would be especially qualified to make judicious selections."

A CANDIDATE FOR SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14 (special).—Robert H. Lindsay, of Pittsburg, secretary of the state League of Republican Clubs, is a candidate for sergeant-at-arms of the Pennsylvania state Senate, and he has good prospect of success.

WANT A FARMERS' ALLIANCE SENATOR.

Kansas City, Mo., Dec. 14.—A dispatch from Atchison, Kan., the home of Senator Ingalls, says that the Farmers' Alliance of Atchison County, at a recent meeting, adopted resolutions recommending the retirement of Mr. Ingalls from the senate and the election to his seat of a Farmers' Alliance man.

GOVERNOR-ELECT BOYD'S ELIGIBILITY.

Chicago, Dec. 14 (special).—A dispatch from Lincoln, Neb., referring to the probability of James E. Boyd, the Democratic Governor-elect of Nebraska, early Much interest has been created in this city and in the state by the announcement that James E. Boyd, the Democratic Governor-elect, is ineligible to the office because he is not a citizen of the United States. Boyd was born in Ireland. He came to America with his father while yet a minor. The story is that Thomas, his father, took out his naturalization papers, but never completed his naturalization until the late election, and that young Boyd had never been naturalized. The constitution of the state requires that a man to be eligible to the office of Governor must be thirty years old, and for five years preceding a citizen of the United States and this state. The statute further provides that the failure to take part in the election shall not disqualify a naturalized person. Democrats contend that the Supreme Court of this state has decided once that a man must actually take an oath at the election or else be counted out of the vote. If a similar decision is rendered in Boyd's case, Governor Thayer will hold over.

A BOOKKEEPER SHORT IN HIS ACCOUNTS.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 14.—A shortage of $50 was discovered at a directors' meeting in the account of E. F. Wolf, bookkeeper for P. A. Gross & Co., wholesale millinery, and he was asked to explain it. He said he would do so, but soon afterward disappeared, and has not since been seen. Further investigation has shown a defalcation of $3,000, and it may prove larger.

FOR PROCURING FRAUDULENT DIVORCES.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Judge Blodgett to-day sentenced George R. Sims to fifteen months in jail. Sims was found guilty of issuing fraudulent decrees of divorce, purporting to have been issued by the Probate Court of Box Elder County, Utah. In this way he had divorced hundreds of people throughout the country.

THE DRUID MILLS COMPANY SOLVENT.

Baltimore, Dec. 14.—At the meeting of the creditors of the Druid Mills Manufacturing Company the statement submitted showed the company to be solvent. The liabilities, including the mortgage on the mill property, are $450,000, while the assets are $710,000. The mills at Woodberry are carried on the books of the company at $600,000. The rest of the assets are in the hands of the trustee. The indebtedness is equally distributed. The trustee was directed to apply to the court for permission to continue the business, for which it was said sufficient money could be obtained without difficulty. A committee was appointed, consisting of Douglas H. Thomas, president of the Merchants' National Bank; Richard Cromwell, of the firm of Baltimore, and a representative of the firm of Rail Brothers, of New York, to advise with the trustee as to the management of the business. The trustee was authorized to retain all the employes of the company. The goods of the Druid Mills were handled in New York by Brinckerhoff, Turner & Co., No. 109 Duane st. Mr. Turner ascribed the failure to dull business for several years. He did not think the liabilities, exclusive of the mortgages, would exceed $100,000, some of which might be due in New-York for cotton.

The statement telegraphed from here to the effect that the Gambrill Manufacturing Company had failed was entirely erroneous. It was the Druid Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of cotton duck, that became financially embarrassed—not the C. A. Gambrill Manufacturing Company, proprietors of the Patapsco Flouring Mills. Mr. Gambrill had been identified with the Druid Manufacturing Company—hence the blunder.

HE WILL NOT CONTEST THE SEAT.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Representative Bowden, of the 3d Virginia District, said to a reporter to-night that he had no intention of contesting the seat of John W. Lawson, the Democrat elected to succeed him in the 52d Congress, although he felt convinced that Lawson had been defeated by 3,000 votes. To establish all his assertions of fraud, he said, would require him to see about 6,000 or 7,000 voters in the district, and he could not do this in the forty days allowed him by law. Besides this, it would cost him about $30,000.

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RAILROAD INTERESTS.

SOFT COAL PRODUCTION.

GREAT INCREASE IN THE OUTPUT FROM WEST VIRGINIA AND MARYLAND.

Baltimore, Dec. 14 (special).—The soft coal production this year has far exceeded that of any previous year in the operation of the Maryland and West Virginia mines. The carrying facilities of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad have been inadequate for the transportation of the enormous output to the seaboard. The output in the Cumberland region for the year will exceed that of last year by over 700,000 gross tons. For the past six months the Baltimore and Ohio Company has been taking all the coal hoppers that several large car manufactories could turn out. The heavy increase in the soft coal trade is partly ascribed to its being used in place of hard coal. Formerly the mills of Fall River used anthracite coal and now nearly all of them use soft coal. A few years ago the Maine Central Railroad used wood for its locomotives and now it buys about 100,000 tons of soft coal from Cumberland, Clearfield and Pocahontas. The shipments of soft coal to Washington and Georgetown amount to about 200,000 tons a year, and when the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, now controlled by the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, is put in working order they will no doubt do a much heavier business and the canal will greatly relieve the railroad.

The coal companies of the Elk Garden region send a good share of their output over the West Virginia Central Railway to Cumberland and then it goes on to the Pennsylvania Railroad in Maryland under a traffic contract that requires it for a partial guarantee of bonds. Some of the Elk Garden coal goes by the West Virginia Central Railway to the Baltimore and Ohio at Cumberland, then from Martinsburg by the Cumberland Valley Railroad to Harrisburg, then by the Pennsylvania Railroad to points along that line. The West Virginia Central increased its shipments by the Pennsylvania Railroad 78,000 tons and by the Baltimore and Ohio 43,000. Its total increase is 121,000 tons. The George's Creek and Cumberland Railroad increased 250,000 tons by the Pennsylvania Railroad and decreased 12,000 by the Baltimore and Ohio. The decrease of product in the Cumberland region has been shared by all of the prominent coal companies. The total tonnage from the Cumberland and Elk Garden regions up to November 22 is 3,160,000 tons. Last year it was 2,402,000 tons. Next year's output depends upon the general prosperity and business of the whole country, for no trade is more readily influenced by good or bad business than soft coal, as it is used almost exclusively for manufacturing and railroad purposes. Nine-tenths of all the coal shipped from here this year went to points east of Sandy Hook. The proportionate increase of the Pennsylvania Railroad's coal business is larger than that of the Baltimore and Ohio from the Cumberland and Elk Garden regions.

LIGHT SHIPMENTS TO THE EAST.

Chicago, Dec. 14.—Eastbound freight shipments of all kinds, except live stock from Chicago to through and local points in the East, by the various eastbound roads during the last week amounted to 87,006 tons, against 77,336 tons for the week previous, an increase of 9,710. This statement is a discouraging one, considering that the shipments for the corresponding week last year amounted to 101,825 tons, or over 20,000 tons more than last week. Instead of an increase of less than 10,000 tons, there ought to have been at least an increase, it is asserted, of 30,000 tons, as navigation has come to a close and all shipments have to be made by the railroad lines. All the indications are that shipments this winter will be exceedingly light. Nearly all the grain loaded in the East during the past two or three months according to grain authority, has gone forward, shippers taking advantage of the low rates prevailing during the summer.

CHANGES ON THE ARKANSAS AND TEXAS.

St. Louis, Mo., Dec. 14.—L. F. Day has been appointed freight traffic manager of the St. Louis, Arkansas and Texas Company. E. W. Leland will have charge of the passenger department. The office of general traffic manager has been abolished.

OBITUARY.

AUGUST L. SIEGHORTNER.

August L. Sieghortner, the famous old New-York restaurant keeper, died on Saturday night at his home, No. 339 Fifth ave. Ten days ago he was seized with a severe attack of pneumonia. In spite of his advanced age, he stoutly resisted the disease, and early on Saturday afternoon his condition was so much improved that the doctor in attendance said that he would be able to leave his bed on the following day. Later in the evening, however, he suffered a relapse, from which, in spite of all efforts, he never recovered.

Mr. Sieghortner, whose name for over forty years has been honored among the epicures of the city, was born seventy years ago at Furth, Bavaria. When still a youth he took service as a waiter at the Breidenbacher, a celebrated hotel in Frankfort. There he learned the business in which he was afterward to acquire such distinction. In 1847 he resolved to seek his fortune in America, and on reaching here he became a waiter in a saloon in Delmonico's old restaurant, in Beaver st. There he remained for four years, and then made his first investment on his own account at No. 126 Pearl st. The profitableness of his restaurant increased so rapidly that he was compelled to take larger quarters successively at Nos. 73 and 120 Pearl st., at the latter house for four months conducting cafés at Nos. 32 Pearl st., and there received as guests many of the leading lights of those days.

In 1857 he was induced to enter the lead-pencil business and started in American lead-pencil industry at Hudson City. In this undertaking he lost his entire savings and was forced to give up all his enterprises. With indomitable pluck, however, he returned to the city and in 1870 made a fresh start at No. 9 Lafayette Place. Again prosperity followed him and at the end of five years he moved to the old Astor House, No. 36 Lafayette Place, where he has since remained. In October of this year, at the urgent request of many friends who found the journey to Lafayette Place inconvenient, he opened a restaurant at the house in which he died.

The dead man's fame as a caterer is National. In the course of his forty-three years' career he has entertained most prominent people in every walk of life and no house has ever had the sequence of more brilliant gatherings. In the estimation of many old-time epicures he ranked higher than Delmonico, and although his methods were by some persons considered slightly antiquated, he never lost his hold on the esteem and admiration of his earlier friends. Among those who made his cafés their haunts in the middle of the day were "Boss" Ward, ex-President Arthur, ex-President Cleveland, Chauncey M. Depew, Bishop Potter and Henry Irving.

Mr. Sieghortner's wife died three years ago. He leaves two daughters and one son. The funeral will take place on Wednesday morning at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Fifteenth st. and Sixth ave., the burial being at Woodlawn.

EDWARD H. BROADHEAD.

Milwaukee, Wis., Dec. 14.—Edward H. Broadhead, a leading capitalist of this city, and at various times prominently identified with the banking and railroad interests of the city, died this morning, at the age of eighty-two years. He leaves no immediate relatives.

MRS. GEORGE CRUIKSHANK.

London, Dec. 14.—The widow of George Cruikshank, the artist and caricaturist, is dead.

THE FIRE RECORD.

AN EARLY MORNING FIRE IN CANAL ST.

A fire was discovered at 2 a. m. yesterday in the five-story brick building No. 595 Canal st. The building also fronts on Elsperard st. Assistant Chief Megill rang three alarms when he got to the fire as a precautionary measure. The fire was hard to control on account of the extreme breadth of the building, and for a long time the combined streams from thirteen engines had but little effect in checking the flames. The fire burned through the roof, but did not come below the second story. The occupants and their losses are as follows: David M. Gerber, first floor, manuals, $40,000; Hartman, Mendelsohn & Co., second, third and fifth floors, cloaks, $200,000; and J. H. Eckhardt, fourth floor, cloaks, $20,000. The damage to the building was about $15,000. It is owned by the Roosevelt estate. The losses are fully covered by insurance.

A. John J. Cashman, the chief of the First Fire battalion, was driving rapidly along West Broadway in response to the third alarm of fire, his horses and sleigh struck a pile of stones that had been left just above Chambers st., upturned a danger signal. It overturned and was thrown to the ground. Cashman escaped injury, but his driver, Patrick Tranor, was pitched into unconsciousness. He was taken to the Hamilton Street Hospital, where it was found that no bones had been broken. It is feared, however, that Tranor sustained internal injuries.

VALUABLE PAINTINGS DAMAGED BY SMOKE.

While the family of Dr. Gabriel E. Grant, of No. 22 East Forty-ninth st., were at dinner last evening, a servant who had occasion to go to the basement found the laundry room in a blaze. The fire was burning fiercely and quickly spread upstairs. Dr. Grant and his family rushed to the street and an alarm was rung. The fire threatened to destroy the building and a second alarm was rung. The fire was then speedily brought under control. The house and furniture were damaged to the amount of $4,000. The loss may be greater on account of the smoke coming in contact with some valuable paintings and bric-a-brac.

SHAMEFULLY NEGLECTED.

From The Buffalo Courier.

He strode into the sanctum with the tragic air of a man who is determined that some other fellow shall get the worst of it. He thumped with his clenched fist on the table, and danced around on the floor, and shouted till his face grew red, and demanded to know, by his right as an old subscriber, why the entertainment given by his singing society had been ignored—yes, ignobly, ignorantly and ignominiously ignored.

The man at the desk patiently heard him through, and when the plaintiff had stopped to fan himself and catch his breath asked with icy calmness:

"What do you mean by 'ignored' ?"

"You hadn't a line in your dumfugled paper this morning about it—and here I've been taking this paper for nigply-'steen years"—

The man at the desk opened the morning's issue, and spreading the second page before his choleric caller showed him a complete, careful, complimentary notice.

And the wind soughed, and the complainant's arctics prettily pattered down the stairs.

THE McKINLEY BILL IN FRANCE.

FRENCH ARGUMENTS TO SHOW THAT FRANCE IS LESS AFFECTED THAN OTHER FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

The latest news from Europe indicates that, upon second thought and after a more mature consideration, the McKinley bill has the chance of not being held there as the awful commercial bugbear it was taken for at first. The French Government seems especially anxious to allay the fears of the trading community, in the hope of being enabled thus to fight the almost prohibitory tendencies of the Tariff Committee of the Chamber, and to return American salted meats to the cooking pot of the French laboring classes. The Paris papers publish a long communication sent them by the "Agence Havas," the recognized semi-official organ of the successive Paris Cabinets, which says:

"The comparative table of imports and exports yearly made to America by the several European Powers shows the following results in regard to the operation of the McKinley bill: The increased tariffs on cottons, woollens and metals touch more particularly Germany and England. Those on china, porcelain and glass articles affect more particularly Austro-Hungary and Italy. As to cereals, table fruits, alimentary pastes, flax and hemp articles, jewelry and hosiery, which have undergone an increase of duties more or less important, the importation from France is below 10 per cent. In regard to wines, the increased tariff strikes particularly our champagne produce. But it is proper to remark that, taking into consideration the great value of our champagne wines, and the favor enjoyed by them among the American people in easy circumstances, that burden will fall much more heavily upon the cheap adulterations and imitations which are manufactured, especially in Germany. As to other wines, the tariff rates are not modified. In regard to prepared skins, articles in skin, silk goods, articles of Paris, which, along with wines, constitute the most important contingent of the French export to America, those articles remain outside the aggravations inscribed in the new tariff bill. We are, therefore, entitled to conclude that, of all the European Powers, France is the least touched by the McKinley bill."

This semi-official declaration of the French Government is supported and substantiated by a detailed analysis of the new American tariff, which the Paris papers generally print. The newspapers take up the most important articles of export, give the new and the old rates of duties, together with the amount of the French exportations, as compared with the similar articles exported from other European countries, and show that France is, perhaps, the country which has been affected the least by the McKinley bill.

A WORKMAN HEIR TO A BIG FORTUNE.

Philadelphia, Dec. 14.—A dispatch to "The Inquirer" from Chester says: "Moses H. Dewey, a riveter at Roach's shipyard, is one of three heirs to an estate in Staffordshire, England, valued at something over $20,000,000. John Dewey, the grandfather of Moses H. Dewey, emigrated to this country over fifty years ago, and settled in Schuylkill County. The estate was left to John, who never heard of it, as he was working in the mining district and had no communication with friends in the mother country. About two years ago Moses Dewey had some curiosity to know about his ancestors, and wrote, making inquiries. His three brothers, who had been left in England, had died, leaving him the only survivor of the family. Soon after this he received a letter from the Probate Court of England, stating that there was an unsettled estate there, and they would like him to forward such evidence as to his parentage as he possessed. The evidence was sent and presented through two of the best lawyers in the district, and Mr. Dewey received word last week from the court officers stating that his claim had been received, giving assurance that his prospects were receiving the money were good. There are two cousins living in Westmoreland County who are joint heirs with Mr. Dewey."

THAT OVERWORKED CAMPAIGN LIE.

From The New Jersey Trade Review.

The "little campaign joker" was worked for all it was worth elsewhere than in Newark—East, West, North and South. City Treasurer Tuite, of Detroit, Mich., who was in this city last week, related to us the manner in which prices were "boosted" at a store of the former in that city, at the behest of his wife's desire. There were five or six customers in the store on one occasion when the lady called. They were demurring at the increased cost of their groceries, which was caused, as they were informed, by the McKinley bill. When the clerk hinted for a "memo" of her own purchases she inquired whether he had not made a mistake in computing her on coffee five cents per pound, tea 75 cents, and sugar four cents. "Oh, no, ma'am; the bill is correct," was the reply; "the McKinley bill has raised the prices." "Do you not know that the McKinley bill removes no duty on coffee, that the McKinley bill reduces the duty on tea, and that the McKinley bill reduces the duty on sugar about two cents a pound?" "No, ma'am; I did not know that. Just wait, and I'll go and tell the boss what you say." The clerk entered the office and told the proprietor what the lady had said. "Well," said he, "if that is so, why the devil will he raise the prices?" These of the other customers had already paid for their groceries, but they wanted to see what the outcome of the affair would be, so they waited. When pressed somewhat closely by the proprietor with the McKinley bill, they took what was left of their groceries and refused to pay, demanding the return of the overcharges in excess of legitimate profits that had been extorted from them, and they got their money, with groceries at cost. A case of such reprehensible practice as that related of the Detroit merchant no reputable New Jersey grocer would be guilty—at least, we have yet to learn of a case.

THE WEATHER REPORT.

FORECAST TILL 8 P. M. MONDAY.

Washington, Dec. 14.—For Eastern New-York, Eastern Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, warmer; fair weather; southwesterly winds.

For