

Cooperstown Courier.

By E. D. STAIR.

COOPERSTOWN, GRIGGS CO., DAF.

The report of the superintendent of public instruction in Pennsylvania shows that during 1882 there has been a decrease of 308 in the number of male teachers and an increase of 785 female teachers.

There have been received in New York during the last year 5,715,008 barrels of flour, and 4,008,182 have been exported. There have been 44,094,491 bushels of wheat received. Of corn, 16,993,492 bushels received; sent away, 8,268,671 bushels for foreign consumption. Not a bushel of grain was shipped from New York in a vessel carrying the American flag.

Many people who are obliged to travel a good deal and stop at modern hotels, provide themselves with a coil of small but strong rope, knotted every three or four feet, and of sufficient length to reach from the windows of a high building. In case of fire it can be taken from a carpet-sack, attached to a bed-post or something of the sort and the other end lowered to the ground thus affording almost sure means of escape. These coils do not occupy but little space, and are manufactured and sold for this special purpose.

Prof. S. F. Baird, United States Fish commissioner, has notified Dr. R. O. Sweeney, president of the Minnesota Fish commission, that he proposes to supply Mr. Sweeney with Carp for distribution in the northwest to all applicants. They will be sent to St. Paul and sent by express wherever ordered. All wishing for carp can at once send in their applications to Prof. S. F. Baird, United States Fish commissioner, Washington, D. C., describing the area and the character of the water to be stocked, also the kind of bottom and shores, bearing in mind there should be no other fish whatever in it, and that a soft bottom and vegetation are always necessary for the carp's successful growth and that they are also easily raised in small artificial ponds.

There are many marks of originality and genius in the first message of Gov. Ben. Butler of Massachusetts. The following is copied with approval in other states: "You know what kind of an education the people need and ought to have. Restrict the branches taught in the primary schools by law specifically to spelling, reading, writing, grammar, arithmetic, geography, history—preferably of the United States—and require that those shall be taught upon the same system, to the same grade of scholars, in every common school in the Commonwealth. When the scholar can show by an examination that he is well grounded in the elementary English branches, then let him be admitted to a school of higher grade."

Mrs. Lucy Stone protests, in the Woman's Journal, against Governor Butler's ingenious proposition to leave it to the women themselves whether they shall exercise what he considers a right guaranteed to them by the constitution of the United States. She says: "Among the classes of citizens that have been successfully enfranchised hitherto, no inquiry has ever been made whether a majority desired it or not. This is the first time in the history of legislation that a proposition has been made to have a subject class vote yes or no before they may exercise a right which the ruling power has steadily refused to grant. We have always insisted that women, who want to vote should have the right secured to them, whether other women want it or not." Nevertheless, Mrs. Stone would like to have the question thus submitted year by year to the women, as the license question is to the men.

The output of pig iron at the south has increased fully 25 per cent. during the past year without increased cost of production. This is due to the improvement in methods and machinery. The same superintendence and the same amount of skilled labor suffice for the increased production as for the former output. The Chattanooga (Tenn.) Times says that the last year has emphatically demonstrated that in the southern district can be made pig iron considerably superior to the Cleveland, England, metal, cheaper than that quality can be made any where in the world, except in England; and, of course, that means the south is to have, at no distant day, a virtual monopoly of that line of production. What the south needs now is manufactures, so that she can make up the raw materials which she so plentifully produces, and nothing is more stimulating to manufacturer than easy access to iron and coal, of which she has an abundance of each.

The shocking human holocaust at Milwaukee and the no less shocking loss of life attending efforts to escape the flames of the burning hotel, affords another illustration of the insecurity of life in modern hotels of large size. The usual but insufficient means of egress were unknown to many of the guests, owing to the general use of elevators. But had they been more familiar, the sad results could not have been avoided,

because they were closed by the flames. There was no way of escape save by jumping from a great height, and this last result in many cases was simply a choice of deaths. Such terrible results arising from what should be regarded as criminal indifference to human life, are too soon forgotten in this country. The authority of law should be invoked for the protection of the people, who are helpless without it—and such provisions as are deemed necessary for safety should be rigidly executed by duly appointed officers, without fear or favor. When it is known that no structure can be used as a public house, unless it meets all the requirements of law, capitalists, architects, builders and landlords, will understand that their own interests are identified with public safety.

Encouragement of Litigation.
Since the verdict of the jury giving Miss Alice Livingston \$75,000 damages against Henry Fleming, the young New York millionaire, the defendant has discovered "new evidence," that of a former coachman, who is willing to swear—for a consideration—that he has been on intimate terms with Miss Livingston. Mr. Fleming alleged that she had been intimate with others than himself, but failed to confirm his statement by proof, and it was utterly discredited by the jury. The word of a man who takes a young girl to a hotel of bad repute, she being in ignorance of the surroundings, and by a combination of force and promises of marriage accomplishes her ruin, is not the best kind of testimony to impeach the character of his victim, without corroborative evidence.

Terrible Drouth in New England.
The Boston Journal publishes several columns of correspondence from special agents in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, giving careful statements and estimates of the losses. Many wells, springs and streams, which have never been dry, have for weeks been useless. Maine has suffered much. The mills along the Kennebec, however, have suffered less than in other places in the state, but the whole Penobscot region has for months been suffering much inconvenience and loss from lack of water. The loss in some sections of New Hampshire has been very heavy. A resident of Manchester states that the water at the present time is much lower than he has ever known it. The agent of the Amoskeag company, which employs about 5,000 operatives, says that at the present time about 1,000 are unemployed. The Manchester mills and print works, the Stark mills, the Langdon mills, and other corporations have also suffered much.

Death from Carelessness.
At Algona, Iowa, on Friday evening late after school had closed for the week one of David Paterson's girls, a miss of ten years, with some of the neighbor children, went to the house of D. A. Haggard, present sheriff, to play with his boys, children of about her own age. After playing awhile and when hunting their things to go home, Melser Haggard went into the bed room to find their things. The bed clothes being thrown about the room, the boy, still excited with his play, came across a loaded shotgun his older brother had borrowed. He drew it up, saying, that he would shoot them. Marian Paterson said, "You had better put down the gun; it might be loaded." The words had not left her lips when she fell forward dead, the charge being entered near the heart. Both families are highly respectable, and have the deepest sympathy of all the community.

Meeting of the Next Congress.
A Washington Special says: The proposal to provide for the meeting of the Forty-eighth congress the first Monday in March, 1883, introduced in the house, is generally commented upon and no favorably received. It is alleged that that such a movement would be suicidal for the party undertaking it. The tariff and internal revenue may probably fail, it is true, as will other very important measures. These will have to come up in the Forty-eighth congress de novo and begin all over again. If congress should meet on the first Monday in March, and the subject of a revision of the tariff and the reduction of taxation be taken up, it is believed by old members that a wrangle would arise that would probably last all summer, and greatly unsettle values. With the adjournment of congress, the business now considerably affected by pending legislation will settle down to its normal condition. In the opinion of the best informed members, there is no probability of the passage of the proposed bill.

The Burning of the Russian Circus.
St. Petersburg dispatch:—The fire broke out toward the end of the performance and was caused by the careless handling of fireworks on the stage. The curtain became ignited and the flames quickly spread to the walls and roof. The members of the orchestra were the first victims. The audience, numbering 900 persons, rushed to the front door, but the door opened inward and as the crowd pressed forward it could not be opened. A rush was then made to two side doors, both of which were nailed up, thus compelling the people to take

to the windows, from which many sprang into the street with their clothes a sheet of flame. The fire brigade arrived within half an hour, but it was impossible to extinguish the flames, as the water in the tanks was frozen. The fire lasted two hours. Eye-witnesses state that when the door was finally opened a mass of burning persons was visible within. The horses and properties of the circus were all destroyed. The ice broke while the fire brigade was crossing the river, thus preventing them reaching there more promptly. It is estimated that ninety men, 120 women, and sixty children lost their lives. The victims include Col. Polio and Vice President Berdttscheff of the bourse. The audience consisted mainly of Jews.

Gold Discoveries in Alaska.
Some months ago mention was made of a prospecting expedition that started for the upper waters of the Yukon river, Alaska, under the lead of Edward Schuch, a veteran miner. Information is now received that 1,500 miles up the Yukon, at the confluence of the Tarrana river, rich and extensive gravel deposits have been discovered, averaging \$1.50 to the pan. The country is difficult of access, the Yukon being closed by ice until about June, while the trip overland from Sitka is as bad as a Siberian journey.

Extra Session of Congress.
A Washington Dispatch says: The president has decided to call an extra session of congress immediately after the 4th of March. It is understood that the occasion for this is not to provide for the presidential succession, but to dispose of the revenue questions that are pending. No one has any expectation that the internal revenue and tariff bills now in congress will be passed by the 4th of March, and it is represented to the president that the agitation of the tax question has so unsettled the manufacturing business that it would be disastrous to leave everything in suspense till next winter.

Senatorial Elections.
The Massachusetts senatorship was settled Thursday by the re-election of Hoar. Crapo contributed to this result by withdrawing from the contest, thus defeating the Long-Democratic combination by a decisive vote. In the Michigan contest Ferry led off with a vote of 56 against 50 for Stout, fusion candidate. Twenty-five votes were distributed between eleven candidates, representing the factious opposition to Ferry in part. The democratic caucus in West Virginia treated Senator Davis to a disagreeable surprise by going almost solid for Kenna, who had hardly been regarded as a candidate until he had secured the prize. In Nebraska no result reached, nor has the dark horse, if horse it shall be, appeared in the arena, although there is no lack of entries.

A Heavy Breach of Promise Case.
A New York telegram says: In the Brooklyn circuit court to-day the hearing in the Livingston-Fleming breach of promise case was resumed. After a long charge from the judge the jury retired an were out for three-quarters of an hour. A prompt verdict was evidently not expected, as both plaintiff and defendant were absent. The jury gave judgment for the plaintiff in the full amount of damages claimed, \$75,000. A storm of applause and something very much like a cheer went up from the spectators. Thus ended the extraordinary litigation of Livingston against Fleming, common enough in its legal character and title, but extraordinary in the standing of its contestants; extraordinary in many of its revelations, and certainly extraordinary in its verdict. Damages so heavy as these have seldom been awarded for a breach of promise in the history of America's jurisprudence. The plaintiff is only twenty years of age. She is the daughter of the late Judge R. S. Livingston of Dutchess county. Henry Fleming, the defendant, is also young—hardly thirty. He is president of the Central Petroleum Refining company and is reputed to be worth nearly \$1,000,000. The plaintiff was left over \$30,000 by her father, to be paid over to her when she became of age. Neither Miss Livingston nor her mother was present when the verdict was rendered.

Witty Waifs
You can never rely upon an echo. Does not Shakespeare speak of the cave where Echo lies? Puck: Jan. 3, 1883.—Have resolved to quit resolving to keep a diary. J. SMITH.
"I don't care what anybody says," remarked Mrs. Fogg, warmly; "Mr. Bolus is a good doctor, and I shall employ him as long as I live." "Very likely," replied Fogg; "I believe it is the same with all his patients. They all employ him as long as they live—that is to say, until he gets through with them."
At a recent salvation army meeting at Poole, in Dorsetshire, it was announced that a "tea meeting" would be held the following week. A printed circular gave the day and hour of meeting, and concluded: "Salvation is free, but not the tea."
"You want to know the principle of my invention? Of course, I can't furnish you with details, but I have no objection to saying that, when water is subjected to the incandescence of colorless chlorine, it reinforces itself in a zoological vacuum, which produces hypoxic disinfection. That, of course, is perfectly clear. Now, if you take the quadratic equation of the square of biological triangles with oxy-hydrogen gas-ological osteology, the result is natural—a dynamic salivation of trigonometrical paresis, bearing in mind that no vibratory organisms are ever paleontologized, or their subjective functions retarded when congested with pneumatic hypothetical theories. The ichthyological impications superinduced thereby generate a perihelion process, and then arise perfect economical and cosmological extraneous motions. Such is my incongruous and translucent system."

DOINGS OF CONGRESS

Friday, January 13.
SENATE.—Mr. Ingalls introduced a bill to determine presidential disability. A fruitless attempt was made to proceed with the tariff bill. The bill extending the jurisdiction of justices of the peace in Montana, Idaho and Washington Territories passed. The senate held a long executive session, considering a treaty with Mexico.
HOUSE.—A resolution was adopted calling on the secretary of the interior for information as to whether land-grant railroads have complied with the law respecting construction and maintenance of telegraph lines for the use of the government and public. The shipping bill was debated at length and finally passed, with the sections providing for free ships and free material stricken out. The vote on striking out these sections was 159 to 54.

Saturday, January 13.
SENATE.—A bill was introduced by Mr. Ingalls for the investigation of the question of railway transportation by a commission to report to congress in December next. The bill for the relief of Ben Halliday coming up, Mr. Plumb moved to strike out all after the enacting clause and substitute a bill to enlarge the powers and duties of the department of agriculture. The senate adjourned without taking action.

HOUSE.—The pension and fertilization appropriation bills, calling for \$85,000,000 and \$325,000, respectively, passed, as did also a special pension bill increasing the pension for those made wholly or partially blind or deaf while in the military or naval service. The most important item passed was one in relation to the increase of pensions in the case of blindness or deafness. Under its provisions such pensioners as lost the sight of one eye shall receive \$12 a month, and in cases where the injury to the one eye manifestly affects injuriously the other, the pension is increased to \$25. All who, under like circumstances, have lost the sight of one eye, the other having been previously lost, shall be entitled to a pension of \$50. The pension for loss of hearing in both ears is fixed at \$25, and for any loss of hearing less than total deafness in one or both ears an equitable portion of the full pension. Another bill which excited a good deal of discussion was one to extend the time for the completion of applications of militia men or non-enlisted men to two years after the passage of the act. This bill was opposed very earnestly by Mr. Bragg, of Wisconsin, and Mr. Dunn of Arkansas, on the ground that it would open the door wide for thousands of improper claims. Gen. Rosencrans advocated the bill.

Monday, January 15.
SENATE.—A number of petitions were presented on various subjects. The bill for the relief of Ben. Halliday and the tariff bill were considered all day without final action.
HOUSE.—Joseph Wheeler took the oath as representative of the Eighth Alabama district. Bills were introduced to convene the Forty-eighth congress the first Monday in March, 1883, and to allow newspapers to be sent through the mail free to subscribers. Several members from committees moved to suspend the rules, passing some bills, and making others special orders for future days, with varying degrees of success. The house wound up the day's work with a wrangle over a war issue which was introduced by Mr. Wise of Virginia. He wanted the officers of a Richmond bank given permission to go before the court of claims to establish their right to certain money, \$100,000 in gold, seized by the United States when the Southern confederacy collapsed. He endeavored to show that the money was not for the use of the rebel forces, but a report on the subject made in 1867 to congress effectually disposed of this assertion. The wind-up of the case was intrusted to Mr. Reed of Maine, who said that he thought the people of the country were tired of having war issues raised, and speaking for his side of the house he knew that they were. To open this case, it was proposed, without applying to it the test of loyalty, would open the door for a horde of claimants from the south. The congressional report had established the fact that the money in question had been loaned to the confederate government to pay off Lee's forces, and it properly belonged to the United States as spoils of war. The house took the same view of the matter, and killed the bill by a vote of 123 to 64.

Tuesday, January 16.
SENATE.—After some routine work the senate took up the tariff bill and made considerable progress thereon. Afterwards there was an executive session, and the following appointments were confirmed: Everett B. Sanders, receiver of public moneys, Wausau, Wis.; John W. Clark, of Michigan, agent for the Indian of the Colorado River agency, Arizona. Postmasters: E. S. Brainerd, What Cheer, Ia.; Robert H. Lamoureux, Sac City, Ia.; William B. Bell, Washington, Ia.; C. A. Bennett, Granite Falls, Minn.
HOUSE.—Joseph E. Taylor took the oath as representative from the Sixteenth Ohio district, to succeed the late Representative Updegraff. The bill amending the act regulating the removal of causes from state to federal courts was discussed at length and finally passed. After the disposition of the court bills in the house recently, the war claim of Massachusetts was taken up. It involves about \$200,000 expended in harbor defenses in 1862 and for which the state now asks to be reimbursed. Bragg of Wisconsin and Holman held that it was not properly a war claim, and the Massachusetts delegation solemnly moved over to the democratic side to argue the case. Morse, the Boston clothing man, asked Holman one or two questions, the replies to which so upset him that he contented himself with chewing a bad cigar, as usual. The contest resulted in favor of the enemies of the house, who struck the enacting clause from the bill and thus killed it. The ways and means committee's tariff bill was reported. The judiciary committee reported in the case of the contingent representative from Nebraska holding major, the contingent in question, responsible for misrepresentation which induced the committee, during the former session of this congress, to make a report in his favor.

Wednesday, January 17.
SENATE.—The only important measure introduced in the senate was Mr. Edmunds'

bill for a railway commission. He proposes to have seven commissioners, three of them to be experts appointed by the president, who shall consider all questions of rates, etc., bearing upon inter-state commerce, and report to congress on the first Monday in December. Senator McMill introduced a bill providing for the distribution of public documents. He proposed to have them placed in charge of the secretary of the interior, to be sold at cost to persons desiring them. The postoffice appropriation bill was discussed at considerable length, and then work was resumed on the tariff bill.
HOUSE.—Charles I. Doremus and J. T. Caine were sworn in, the former as the late Mr. Orth's successor from the Ninth district of Indiana and the latter as delegate from Utah. The only other business done was the discussion and adoption of a joint resolution favoring the appointment of a new commission on Venetian claims to pass upon the action of the former commission.

Thursday, January 18.
SENATE.—After a long discussion, the amendment to the postoffice appropriation bill appropriating \$185,000 for fast mail service on trunk lines, was agreed to. The tariff bill was discussed until adjournment.
HOUSE.—The day was devoted to uninteresting routine work and the consideration of the novel appropriation bill.

THINGS IN GENERAL.
The growth of the anthracite coal trade has been something marvellous. In 1842 only 1,000,000 tons were mined. Ten years ago an effort was made to reach what was considered the highest point that could possibly be attained—namely, the shipment of 20,000,000 tons. This was considered as much as the market could take at any time. The product fell short of that quantity, however, as the output for 1872 was 19,689,778 tons. Now it is nearly 50,000,000 tons. The year has been a busy one, with prospects of a busier one next year. According to the revised penal code of New York, it is a misdemeanor, subjecting the offender to a year's imprisonment, or a fine of \$500, or both, "to get on any car or train while in motion, for the purpose of obtaining transportation thereon as a passenger." It would not take long to raise enough money to pay off the national debt with the fines collected for offenses against this statute in the city of New York alone—if they could collect them. The statistics of crime for the year just closed are not very cheerful, but to do that much criticized section, the South, full credit, it ought to be said that of the 730 murders of the year only 212 were committed in the South, while of the 101 executions 53 were in the Southern States. Both as to the proportion of crimes and the execution of the laws upon murderers, this is a better showing than could have been anticipated. The annual statistics of Rhode Island savings banks show that the working people are quite prosperous. The deposits have increased \$1,548,868 in the past year, the total amount being \$48,320,661. The number of depositors has increased 9,481, making the total number of depositors 112,471.

The first shoe ever pegged by a machine has come into the possession of the Essex Institute of Salem, Mass. It is accompanied by a letter from the late Samuel Colman, the inventor and patentee of the machine, detailing its history and the story of its manufacture, and also the original letters patent. The latter is inscribed on parchment, and has the signatures of Andrew Jackson, president; Edward Livingston, secretary of state, and Roger B. Taney, attorney general, and bears date March, 1843. Of the 40,000 envelopes sent out by the managers of the Baltimore Home for the Friendless, for Christmas offerings, but 1,018 were returned. In those returned were three \$5 bills, seven \$2 bills, and forty-seven \$1 bills; thirty-five 50-cent pieces, 177 25-cent pieces, 433 10-cent pieces, 356 5-cent pieces, thirty-nine 3-cent pieces, 742 cents—in all \$207.45. Some new ideas of Siberia were developed in a lecture by Mr. George Kennan, in New York, the other evening. He said that if the United States and every other country in Europe except Russia were put into Siberia there would still remain 1,000,000 square miles uncovered, and that a broad belt of land extending from the southern part of Siberia to what was known as the Central Forest was one of the most fertile and genial places in the Russian empire. The life of the exile is by no means so bad as it is made out to be. Good homes and farm lands are provided, and there are no excises in the very cold parts of the country. The only ones who work in mines are such as would either be hung or imprisoned in other countries. Most of the political prisoners are sent to Tomsk and Omsk, the former a rich town of 20,000 inhabitants, with a public library, a boy's military school, and a ladies' academy. The exiles acquire property and live handsomely.

A Mischievous Girl and a Wag-gish Man.
Boston Journal.
Most men will lose their presence of mind under moments of excitement. Thus it is no great discredit to a well-known man in a suburban town that he quite lost his head yesterday in consequence of an unexpected and alarming accident. He was at the railway station in place of his residence upon the arrival of the noon train from Boston, and saw descend from the train a half score of chattering, laughing and attractive young women. Gathered on the platform to welcome them was another bevy of maidens, who were at once set upon by the detachment above mentioned, and the accustomed scene of osculation, fervent embraces and expressions of pleasure which is to be noticed whenever two or three women are gathered together, was enacted. The congregation of assorted maids who were present looked upon this animated scene with mingled amusement and yearning, and the man in question, who was young and wag-gish, began burlesquing the action of the young women by seizing upon a masculine friend, embracing him with ardor and affecting to kiss him with much loud labial smacking. While engaged one of the liveliest girls observed him, and, stepping up to him, remarked that if he was as anxious for a kiss as he seemed to be, he had better let his friend alone and kiss her. The hilarity of the person thus challenged immediately vanished; his jaw fell and his knees smote together, and he feebly ejaculated in stammering accents: "Thank you; but I—I'm married!" The girl laughed mischievously, and vanished, and five minutes later the subject of the sketch was seen stamping around the depot calling himself all sorts of names because he didn't dare meet the audacious young woman in half way. The czar is again having himself hedged about with guards armed to the teeth. This man could not be more uncomfortable than he the president of the United States.