

# THE ELECTRIC AGE.

DEVOTED TO TELEGRAPHY, TELEPHONY, ELECTRIC LIGHTING AND ALL PHASES OF ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT.

VOL. VI—No. 19

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1, 1888.

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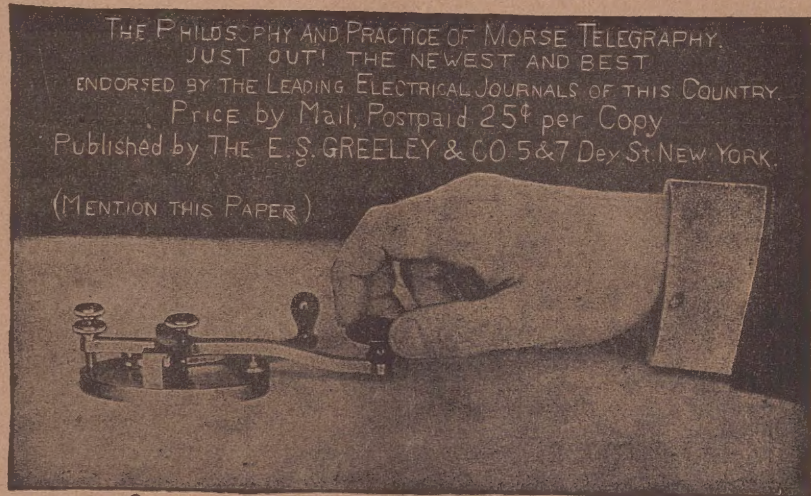
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*The Electrical Review*, March 24th, '88.

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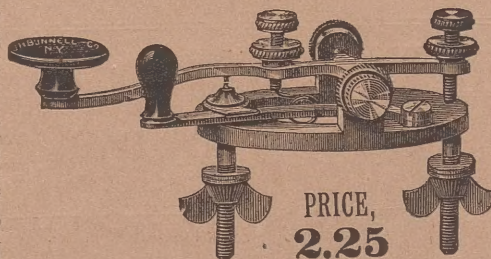
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THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

Cincinnati, October 5th, 1885.

C. G. Muller, Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

Sir:—About three months since, I commenced to use the Caligraph with a view to receiving special despatches from the wires, instead of by the old method by the pen. In about three weeks I was able, by diligent practice, to write from thirty-five to forty words per minute. Since then I have been using the machine with success receiving from five to six thousand words per night upon it. We have found the machine of receiving in the work as to be able to receive the despatches by code, or abbreviation, thus such value in the work as to be able to receive the matter is written out in full upon the Caligraph. We make an average speed of fifty words per minute by this method, and expect to do still better work with it.

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Very truly yours, Signed; Frank B. Ross, Opr. Commercial Gazette.

C. G. Muller, Esq., Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

October 5th, 1885.

above statement of our operator.

Dear Sir;—I cheerfully certify to the correctness of the Signed; Chas. E. Thorp, Telegraph Editor C. G.

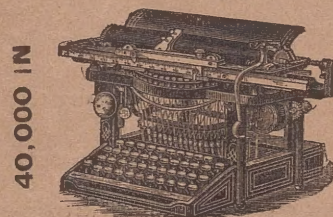
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# THE ELECTRIC AGE.

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J. B. TALTAVALL, Editor and Publisher,

C. H. BOGLE, Manager, Advertising Dept.

No. 5 Dey St., New York.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 1, 1888.

NOTICE.

Mr. W. P. Phillips, finding the demands upon his time too great to admit of his giving the attention to the editorial department of THE AGE that he hoped to, has resold the interest acquired by him in May last, to the undersigned, making him again the sole proprietor of the paper.

JOHN B. TALTAVALL.

Telegraphers who desire to contribute to the New York *World* fund for the benefit of the Jacksonville, Fla., operators, can do so through the ELECTRIC AGE, and have their remittances acknowledged in both journals. That these brave fellows are heroes, and deserving of recognition goes without saying, and the public fully appreciates this fact and will cheerfully and generously contribute. As an example of the regard in which the Jacksonville force is held at the main office of the company, a gentleman a few days since could not procure from General Superintendent Merrihew a list of those who had left their posts. Mr. Merrihew replied that neither he nor the company blamed any one from fleeing from such a plague as the yellow fever. It cannot be claimed either that the company is making money out of the scourge. Nine tenths of the business handled is free, and the expenses are four times as much as the receipts. For once, at least, monopoly has set the entire world a good example in charity and kindness.

Mr. F. W. Jones, of the Postal Company, has demonstrated by the successful operation of his dynamo system, that the telegraph circuits of the future, will be furnished with electrical energy by dynamos. The plant lately installed in the basement at 187 Broadway, New York, has made an excellent record and it is more than probable that the company sooner or later will abandon the gravity battery at all large points. Complaints of weak batteries are now things of the past in the Postal office. The Western Union has also installed an excellent dynamo plant at Pittsburgh, Pa., where 15,000 cells of gravity battery are displaced. An

immense saving to the company will naturally result. The local circuits which are also supplied with the necessary dynamic electric current, give the utmost satisfaction. The Commercial Telegram Co. of New York, and the Western Union at 195 Broadway, have had dynamo plants in successful operation for years, the former for local and the latter for main line service.

The Constitution of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers prohibits strikes, yet the operators on the line of the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway have been notified to sever their connection with the Order or vacate their positions. This, too, in a country where individual freedom is the corner-stone of the Government. Such action on the part of the railroad manager should be a strong incentive, if any were necessary, for Commercial and Railroad Telegraphers to organize thoroughly and combine for the protection of their mutual interests.

Two years ago telegraph operators employed on railway lines formed the "Order of Railway Telegraphers." The order has grown in numbers to over twelve thousand in the United States and Canada. For the purpose of assisting members of the order in obtaining situations an employment bureau has been formed, with offices at convenient points throughout the country. The managers of these offices are in constant communication with the heads of the railway telegraphic departments, and are at all times apprised of vacancies.

Telephone annual charges abroad are : In Belgium, \$47.60 to \$28.56 are paid ; in Denmark, \$49.48 to \$39.09 ; in Germany, \$35.70 ; in Italy, \$38.08 ; in Holland, \$47.60 to \$46.17 ; in Sweden, \$33.32 to \$22.84 ; in Switzerland, \$28.56 ; in Austria, \$85.68 to \$38.08 ; in Spain, \$71.04 to \$53.51 ; in England, average \$59.50 ; in France and Russia higher rates are paid.

President Charles E. Taylor, of the Old Timers, has already begun to prepare for the entertainment of the Old Timers and military telegraphers at Louisville next year. If that meeting does not eclipse any of its predecessors in enjoyment and a good time generally, it wont be the president's fault. He is heart and soul in the movement.

The neglect of a telegraph operator to deliver train orders resulted in the collision of freight trains near Akron, Ohio, a few days since. Engineer Joseph Armstrong was killed and two other trainmen were badly hurt. Both engines and nine cars were demolished.

A paragraph is going the rounds that an electric girl in Iowa can hold the strongest man in a chair with the greatest of ease, and all the young men are now asking the girls to take a seat in an arm chair and test their electricity.

The telegraph operators of Great Britain and Ireland are preparing to unite with the operators in France, and form an International Brotherhood. A conference of leaders in both countries will shortly be held in London.

Four out of six operators now at work in the Western Union office in fever stricken Jacksonville are Charlestonians. Charleston boys have ever been noted for their pluck and fidelity to duty, and the conduct of these young men ever since the beginning of the epidemic reflects the highest degree of honor and credit upon their native city. The names of the young men in question, are W. J. Wallace, T. F. Wallace, J. P. Rivers and R. H. Fleming. They were all raised in Charleston, and learned their profession there, but were employed in the Western Union office at Jacksonville some time before the appearance of yellow fever there. When the scourge came, eight of their fellow-operators deserted their posts and left the city, but the Charlestonians stuck to their posts like men, being, with the exception of two others, the only operators who remained to do the work of the office. *Charleston Courier.*



## SYNTHETIC STUDY OF DYNAMO MACHINES.

(Continued from page 3, Sept 16.)

CORRECTION.—The arrows showing the direction of the induced currents in positions 2 and 3, fig. 14, on page 3 of September 16 issue, were inadvertently drawn in the wrong direction. In both cases the current looking at face *c* should flow in the direction of the hands of a watch.

## I.—INDUCTION—(continued.)

6. *Work done in moving the coil.*—We have seen that the movement of the coil, *c*, from *A* creates an E.M.F. in the former which causes a current to flow in the direction of the arrow, fig. 15. The quantity of electricity for a given movement will depend primarily upon the resistance of the circuit through which it flows, and neglecting a secondary phenomenon which we shall consider in a future article, we may assume that the current at any moment is the E.M.F. divided

by the resistance, or equal simply to  $\frac{E}{R}$ . The rate at which

electrical work is being done at any moment is the product of E.M.F. and current, or  $E \times C$ , the mean rate into the time in seconds, giving the work done in Joules during the movement. In moving the coil a quantity of mechanical work has been expended, and an inexorable law of nature demands that the work done by the current shall be exactly equal to the work done upon the coil during the movement. A certain resistance to motion has been experienced from the fact that an electric current has been produced, and it follows as a direct consequence of the conservation of energy that the induced current flows in all cases in a direction such as to oppose the motion. It may seem unnecessary in these days to announce thus seriously a fact made apparent in the working of every dynamo machine; but, at all events, its enunciation by Lenz, when electrical science was yet in its childhood, constituted a very important advance. Observe that in fig. 15, the current induced in *c*, by moving from *A*, is in the same direction as the current in *A*, or, in other words, the currents in the two coils flow in directions parallel to each other. Now, since the current in *c* is such as to oppose the motion, it follows as a direct inference that *conductors in which currents flow in the same direction attract each other.* If *c* is moved towards *A*, the current in the former is reversed; but, since its flow again opposes the motion, it follows that *conductors in which currents flow in opposite directions repel each other.*

7. *Theories of Magnetism.*—The current in coil *A*, fig. 16, magnetizes the piece of soft iron round which it flows, the ends protruding beyond the coil manifesting as marked a polarity similar to that which would be manifested by the coil faces through which they respectively protrude. We have mentioned that the *N* pole of a magnet produces an effect like that which would be produced by the face of a coil in which the current flows in an opposite direction to the hands of a watch, while the *S* pole produces an effect similar to that which would be produced by a current flowing in the opposite direction. We may therefore consider the magnets as current-carrying coils, and given two magnets placed with their *N* and *S* poles facing, as in fig. 17, it will be observed that the directions of the supposed currents are parallel to each other. There will result in consequence mutual attraction between the *N* and *S* poles, as mentioned in paragraph 4. Between similar poles there will be repulsion, since the imaginary currents flow in opposite directions, fig 18.

A knowledge of the above facts led Ampere to the enunciation of his theory of magnetism, which states that magnetism consists in the existence of electric currents circulating round the molecules of magnetic bodies. According to this theory, in iron or steel unmagnetized, the currents round the molecules have relatively to each other no definite direction, magnetisation being the resolution to one common direction of the currents in all the molecules. Fig. 19 illus-

trates the theory by showing the *N* pole of a magnet, *a*, *b*, *c* and *d* being molecules with their currents flowing in the directions shown. It will be observed that since the adjacent currents flowing in the separate molecules are in opposite directions the effect in the interior of the magnet is *nil*, and the result due to the currents in all the particles is the same as if there were circulating round the exterior of the magnet currents as in fig. 20. This theory is of little importance, nor has it any practical bearing on the subject in hand, though its conception arises out of the facts we have been considering. When we say that a magnet pole behaves *as if* it were the face of a current-carrying coil we utter a fact, but when we stray beyond this and invest each molecule with an actual current of electricity we are prone to become unscientific, if not absurd. It is always important to remember facts, though it is often dangerous to espouse the theory which pretends to explain them.

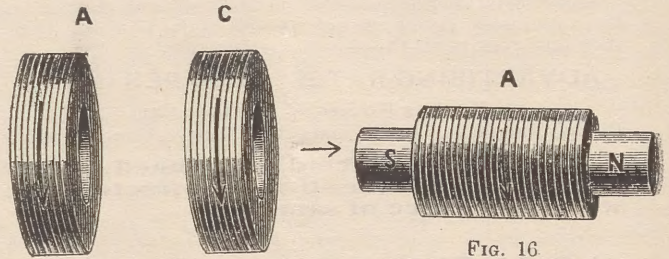


FIG. 16.

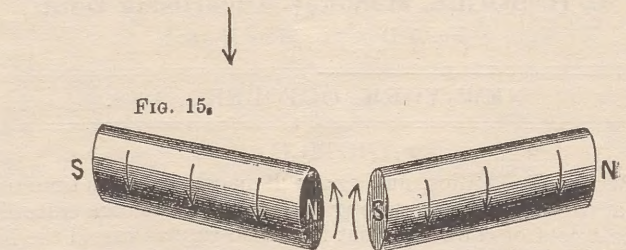


FIG. 15.



FIG. 17.



FIG. 18.

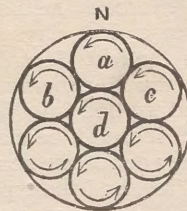


FIG. 19.

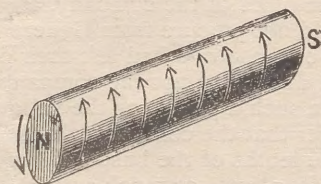


FIG. 20.

The theory of magnetism advanced by Professor Hughes invests every molecule of iron or steel with polarity, each being in fact a little magnet. An unmagnetized bar has its molecules with their poles lying in all directions, and magnetism is, according to this authority, a re-arrangement of the molecules, whereby they are all constrained to turn their similar poles in the same direction. When the molecules are lying thus, they form a chain of small magnets with their adjacent poles, *N* and *S*, the continuity of the chain, or in other words, the degree of saturation in the iron or steel being greater as the constraint is increased. Absolute con-



tinuity or a chain of molecules with their magnetic axes lying strictly in line would mean absolute saturation; but it is unlikely that this can ever be attained, all experiments lending weight to the supposition that absolute saturation would require infinite constraint or necessitate infinite exciting power. According to Hughes's theory, magnetism is an inherent property of the molecules of magnetic substances, and the material is easy or difficult to magnetize accordingly as its molecules are capable or incapable of being readily induced to take up the position of magnetisation. In a bar of soft iron the molecules are easily rotated into the required position by an electric current sent round the bar, and for the time being the iron is strongly magnetic. But on the current ceasing, the molecules resume their former positions. It is as if they had been under what might be called magnetic stress, and having been relieved from the constraint to which they had been subjected by the current, they immediately recover their normal attitudes. In a bar of magnet steel the behavior is somewhat different. If such a bar is made glass hard and magnetized by a current sent round it, we shall find that the magnetism which can be induced in it is much less than in a soft iron bar having the similar dimensions; but on the other hand, when the current has ceased to flow, the bar will remain to a certain extent permanently magnetized. The difference in the behavior of the two materials must be due to a physical difference in their composition and structure. We might say that the structure of the steel is such that the molecules can only be twined through a comparatively small angle by the utmost exciting power. This would explain the difference observed in the degree of magnetism. We might say also that due to the same peculiarity of structure the molecules experienced a difficulty in regaining their previous positions. This would explain the existence of permanent magnetism. While soft iron, from its structure, offers little resistance to the arrangement of its molecules, which we designate magnetism, it offers little resistance to their disarrangement when the exciting current is removed. Steel, on the other hand, offers a comparatively great resistance to the molecular arrangement, and its structure prevents to a certain extent disarrangement, acting like a restraining force when the external constraint due to an exciting current is removed.

Whether we accept or not in its completeness this theory of Hughes, it is certain that the true explanation of magnetism is to be found in the nature of the molecules composing magnetic bodies. If we take a thin magnetised blade of steel and break it in two, we get a pair of magnets each manifesting as when unbroken, N and S polarity. Again break one of the pieces; still we have in each a complete magnet. Carry on the process physically, and when from the nature of things this fails, let the subdivision be continued in the imagination until the molecule is reached. The magnetised bar is but a multitude of molecules, and the character of an aggregate is determined by the character of its units. It is in the nature of the molecule that we must seek for enlightenment, and the inference that in the latter we should likewise find a polarity manifested is irresistible. Is this ultimate polarity inherent or induced? We cannot tell, for we are unable to investigate the magnetic properties of a substance until its magnetisation is a fact. Nor do we know why a current of electricity produces magnetism at all. That the current and the magnetism are related as cause and effect, we know. We can correlate their respective magnitudes, but when we have done this we have reached the limits of knowledge. We are then face to face with ultimate scientific truths, with facts bound eternally by links ever invisible to the wisest among us.

(To be continued.)

T. M. B. A.—The annual meeting of the Telegraphers' Mutual Benefit Association will be held in the Western Union Building, 195 Broadway, at four o'clock, on Novem-

ber 21st, 1888. Members who cannot attend the meeting, will please forward their proxies to the secretary's office at the earliest date convenient in order that there may be time for checking and listing them properly.

The following amendments to the Constitution and By-Laws have been proposed and will be submitted to the meeting:

It is proposed to amend Section 1, Article 3, of the Constitution so that it shall read:

"The officers of this Association shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a Medical Director."

And to add to Section I of the By-laws the following clause.

"The Medical Director shall examine and make recommendations upon all applications for membership."

It is proposed to amend Section VII. of the By-Laws so that it shall read as follows:

"Any person of good moral character, who has forfeited membership through non-payment of dues may be restored to membership upon the same terms and conditions as are required of new applicants, except that the entrance fee shall be four dollars, and that such applicant for restoration shall not be rendered ineligible to membership by reason of not being in Telegraphic service."

And to add to Section VI. of the By-Laws the words:

"Except that such applicant for restoration shall not be rendered ineligible to membership by reason of not being in Telegraphic service."

ANOTHER PRACTICAL JOKER—While a Tiffin (Ohio) resident was sleeping in a railroad station near there the telegraph operator painted stripes on his face with a paint used to mark boxes. The paint contained a powerful caustic and ate into the unfortunate man's face, disfiguring him in a horrible manner. The operator has been arrested.



MURPHY (coming up the pole)—"Are yez hurted, Dinney?"  
CASSIDY (who has had a bad shock)—"Divil th' feelin' Oi hev in me carpsie t' tall, John!"—From Judge.

MORAL.—Subscribe for the ELECTRIC AGE and keep posted, and such accidents wont happen.



## BOOK REVIEW.

Messrs. Wyman & Sons, of London, Eng., are publishing an Annual for the two great factors of the 19th century—telegraphy and the mail service throughout the world. The author or rather compiler, is Mr. C. Armstrong, of the General Post Office, Edinburgh.

The articles are contributed by those able to give interesting information in a pleasant and attractive form. Major Beresford, of the English Royal Engineers, and chief of the Field Telegraph Battalion writes "The Electric Telegraph in War;" Chief Operator Lloyd, of Chicago, Ill., contributes "Chicago Telegraphs;" Mr. Barker, of Maderia, "Cable Life;" Mr. Mason, of the Imperial Telegraphs of Japan, "Jottings from Japan;" Mr. C. R. Hosmer, of Montreal, "Telegraphy in Canada;" "Our Hero," a sketch of James Francis Leonard, by an old timer; "Western Telegraph Life," by Mr. S. J. Pryor, now of New York; "A Memory," by Charles E. Taylor, of Frankfort, Ky.; "Atlantic Cables," by "Condenser," and many other contributions by well-known authors. The illustrations are by reputable artists. The price of the book will be about fifty cents. It will not, however, be ready for the public for some time yet. Copies may be procured at the office of the ELECTRIC AGE, when ready.

## BOOKS ON TELEGRAPHY.

These books are recommended to the profession.

- Abernethy. An Outline of Commercial and Railway Telegraphy, in Theory and Practice. Arranged in questions and answers. Sixth Edition. Illustrated. Cloth..\$2.00
- Culley. Hand-Book of Practical Telegraphy. Cloth, 442 pages, 152 illustrations and numerous plates.....\$5.50
- Lockwood. Electricity, Magnetism and Electric Telegraphy. A Practical Guide and Hand-Book of General Information for Electrical Students, Operator and Inspectors. Cloth, 376 pages, 152 illustrations.....\$2.50
- Loring. A Hand-Book of the Electro-Magnetic Telegraph. Illustrated, boards, 50c. Cloth, 75c. Morocco.....\$1.00
- Maver & Davis. The Quadruplex. With Chapters on the Dynamo-Electric Machine in Relation to the Quadruplex, The Practical Working of the Quadruplex, Telegraph Repeaters and the Wheatstone Automatic Telegraph. By Wm. Maver, Jr. Cloth, 126 pages, 63 illustrations.\$1.50
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Any of these books can be procured at the office of the ELECTRIC AGE, 5 Dey street, New York. Orders from out of town will be filled at the regular price. Remit by post office money order.

## THAT DOG.

"DE."

"One of the strangest things I know of is the way in which that dog and I became friends." Said an old timer the other evening as he stood in the basement chewing the end of a Wheeling stoga. "I don't know of any kind act I ever did him, and I am sure not even a dog ought to take a fancy to such a pitiful looking wreck as I am, but for some unknown, unaccountable reason that dog clings to me like the ivy to the decayed tree." "Let's adjourn across the street

and I'll tell you more about that dog."

\* \* \* \* \*

"It is a long time ago since I first met that dog. Yes; I suppose it is all of twenty years, and although he has not been constantly with me, he has returned so often after long periods of absence, that I feel now as though we are inseparable. For three or four months at a time that dog has been away, and then he would show up in some unexpected quarter and with the same old wag of his tail which showed plainly that he was glad to see me again. Barkeeper, bring us a drink!" "What'll you have?" "Well, make mine very light. Here's luck! Ah, that's good, old stuff! Well, as I was saying, I have known that dog to be away for a whole summer; yes, sir; wouldn't see a sign of him round anywhere, but just as soon as the cold weather came on and the hot Scotches with lemon, and the big stoves here in this saloon were looking so bright and inviting, that dog would show up, and then, perhaps, he'd stay with me day and night for a month or two. Say, barkeeper, give us a little more of that, not so much sugar this time, please, that's it. Ah, that tastes like something. Well, sir, about two years ago this fall, that dog who had been with me off and on all summer, suddenly disappeared, and I began to think I had lost him forever. Night after night I used to pass by places where he and I often met, but I couldn't see anything of him. I had saved a little money during that dog's absence and was looking quite respectable, but some how or other I couldn't help hankering after that dog. I was continually thinking of him and wondering how long he would be away. Say, young man, let's have a drink! What'll ye have old boy? Take a good one for old time's sake. Here she goes! Good health. Every drink I get seems to taste better than the one before it; but about that dog, well, he was gone a long while. I got married in the meantime, and nobody could have been happier than I was. But, that dog, if I could only forget him, I would be happier than ever. One very cold night I was on my way home and stopped to get a cigar. I was not drinking then, and as I came out of the cigar store I met an old acquaintance that I hadn't seen in years. You know how that is; you know how you like to treat an old friend when you meet him. Well sir, we went into a saloon on the corner and would you believe it, before I was there half an hour, in walked that dog wagging his tail and looking as happy as a clam at high tide; the same old dog. Not a hair changed on him and you can depend upon it that he made a night of it. But some how or other when I woke up next morning that dog was gone; couldn't remember where I left him, but he was gone. My wife said she saw no dog and I suppose she spoke the truth—Spose we try (hic) little more that stuff? Say, young feller give's a drink (hic); here's to you, old boy (hic); what! can I (nic) believe it? There's the old dog (hic) see him; (hic) good night, young fellow; tell (hic) Mr. Dwight skuse me to-night; got take care (hic) that dog."

And what I expected was going to be a good story was suddenly cut short by the appearance on the scene of "that dog."

OPERATOR'S CRAMP.—In one of the broad windows of the recording department of the office of James Bond, clerk of the superior court in Baltimore, Md., is a small electric battery. It is used by the recorders for the relief of the cramp of the muscles of the hand, which follows long continued and steady use of the pen. The relief is instantaneous, and clerks who formerly were compelled at times to stop work for several days on account of swelling and contraction of the muscles of the hand, now take a few gentle shocks of the electric current on the slightest approach of stiffness. They return to work at once, entirely relieved, and continue without inconvenience. Nearly every one of the score of clerks receive benefit from the electric current, and the battery is regarded as an indispensable fixture of the office.



THE YELLOW FEVER FUND.

Contributions to the fund for the benefit of the telegraph operators who have so nobly stuck to their post in the face of all danger, will be acknowledged in this journal and also the *New York World*. The movement so far meets with great favor and bids fair to swell to most generous proportions as it should. The contributions so far are :

J. H. Bunnell & Co., New York . . . . . \$100.00

J. H. Bunnell & Co., as usual, on hearing of the distress among the fraternity hasten to contribute to the fund for relief purposes. Almost immediately upon the announcement that the *ELECTRIC AGE* would take charge of any remittances sent us, Bunnell & Co's., check for \$100 arrived. Bunnell & Co. were liberal contributors to the relief of the Galveston and Cincinnati telegraph sufferers by floods a few years ago, and their hundreds of personal kindnesses and remembrances to individuals in need before and since, have earned the good will of the entire fraternity. The \$100 has been turned over to the *World*. The force at 195 Broadway, has contributed about \$500 through time keeper Brooks, who will turn the amount over to the *World* fund, and the exact amount of which will be acknowledged later.

Operator W. F. Ford died September 26th, at the Sand Hills Hospital. This is the second death. Ford's real name is Turner and was from Bay City, Mich. Overwork caused his death. Mr. Hollenbeck is a very sick man.

Mr. Frank R. Kasper and H. R. Swivel, of Newburg, N. Y., have arranged for a base ball match, the profits of which will be forwarded to Florida.

The Frankfort, Ky., operators have remitted \$26 to Jacksonville.

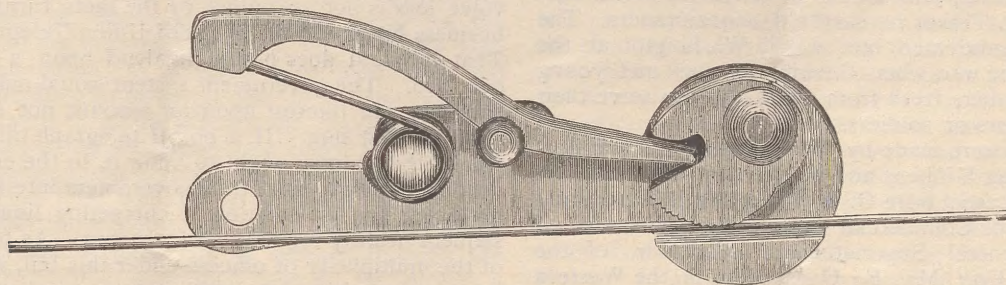
Manager D. J. Crowley has returned to his post of duty.

FERDINAND'S PATENT WIRE STRETCHFR.

This illustration gives a fair idea of the Ferdinand wire stretcher which is sold by Messrs J. H. Bunnell & Co., of New York City. The device consists of a lever which a spring presses against a toothed cam that grips the wire inserted in the clamping jaws. The arrangement is such that merely placing the wire between the jaws and pulling, serves to grip the wire firmly, and the stronger the pull the more powerful the grip. When fixed in position, the wire is at once released by pressing against the spring lever, which raises the cam clear of the wire. As no screws and nuts are required, considerable time and trouble are saved.

Its great advantage, which will be apparent to line builders at a glance, is that with its use only one hand is necessary to get a firm clutch grip on a wire, while with all other stretchers the man must use both hands to do so, and if he is on a pole this makes a considerable difference.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONES.—Among the corporations recently chartered in Illinois is the American Telephone & Telegraph Company, organized for the purpose of building and operating telephone lines from Chicago to other cities. Work on the new line has been commenced between here and Milwaukee. This distance is to have a line of forty-foot poles, independent of any other telegraph or telephone line, and ten wires will be strung at once, though it is expected that a larger number will be required if the enterprise proves as successful as is anticipated. Only copper wires, manufactured and strung after the most improved and modern plans, will be used. Long distance telephone service has not been so successful so far as Chicago is concerned, chiefly, if not solely, for the reason that the wires which connect-



IMPROVED WIRE STRETCHER.

NEW YORK TELEGRAPHERS' AID SOCIETY.—Report for the quarter ending September 6, 1888.

Balance on hand June 7, 1888	\$1,905 71
Receipts for Dues . . . . . \$640 00	
"    " Fees . . . . . 8 00	648 00
	\$2,553 71
Disbursements for sickness . . . . . \$672 59	
"    " death . . . . . 233 00	
Miscellaneous . . . . .	905 59
Balance on hand . . . . .	\$1,648 12

E. F. Stevens, D. C. Donohue and Edwin Dean, auditing committee.

Mr. H. W. Teed, ex-manager B. & O., Consolidated Exchange, now assistant telegraph editor of the *Evening World*, is making a success of his new position. It is evident that telegraphers are better fitted for newspaper work than any other class of men.

Mr. H. Sommers has been appointed superintendent of the Rock Mountain Bell Telephone Co., and superintendent and secretary of the District Telegraph Co., at Helena, Mont. Mr. Sommers is a well-known telegrapher and worthy of the advancement.

Mr. R. G. Wilson, secretary to Superintendent M. H. Redding has resigned to accept a position with the *Electrical World*. Mr. Richard Murphy succeeds Mr. Wilson.

ed this city with Kenosha, Racine, Milwaukee and other places, were strung on poles which at the same time carried railroad and other telegraph wires. The rates to be charged have not yet been decided upon.—*Western Electrician*.

LOUISVILLE NOTES.—Wilbur W. Adkins, formerly of The United Press, has been appointed treasurer of McCauley's Theater, this city. Wilbur's many telegraph friends are glad to hear of his good fortune. Mr. E. O. Hildebrand has been appointed traffic chief. W. A. Culp, of the night force, is the proud father of a bouncing daughter. Mr. L. M. Adkins a well-known ex-telegrapher, now engaged in journalism, left the city this week for the yellow fever district, to report the situation for the *Courier Journal*, of this city, and several of the New York papers. He will make stops at Decatur, Birmingham and Montgomery, Ala., Jackson, Miss., and may go to Jacksonville. Geo. Silvertooth, of the day force, is spending a month's vacation at his home at Fulton, Ky. Arrivals: Touhey, Books, Vankruran and Minihan. Departures: Vandever to Atlanta.

The Brooklyn telegraphers will give their annual ball on October 2d, at Rivers' Academy, when a most enjoyable time will be had, if the affair is conducted in the same manner as those of the three previous years. There is no doubt of this, for the reason that the same gentlemen have the matter in hand. The music will be furnished by a well-known professor. Dancing will begin at 9 o'clock.



## ENTERTAINING THE ELECTRICIANS.

The American Telegraph and Telephone Company on Wednesday, September 5th, provided six tally-ho coaches for the telephone delegates, who were driven through Central Park to General Grant's tomb, and on to the Boulevard where a general inspection of the excellent long distance poles was had.

On the return, a halt was made at the Mount St. Vincent Hotel, in Central Park, where the gathering was first photographed by a well-known artist, then entertained by the Western Electric Company at dinner. The Eastern Manager of that establishment, Mr. Thayer, acted as chairman. He was supported by Messrs. Metzger, Barney, Vail, Sargent, Storke, Brown and Patterson. An excellent dinner was served and toasts were responded to by Mr. Dutton, C. J. French, M. F. Tyler, G. F. Durant, C. J. Glidden, T. D. Lockwood, W. J. Sefton, Gibbens, R. W. Pope, Mr. Storke, Mr. F. W. Jones, W. A. Hovey, Mr. Metzger, Mr. Brown and others.

On Thursday at 10.30 A. M., about 200 guests of the Metropolitan Telegraph and Telephone Company boarded the steamer "Cygnus" at West 23d street, which was headed up the Hudson. Many enjoyable hours were spent on this picturesque waterway.

At noon an excellent collation was served by one of New York's best caterers, which was very much appreciated, the cool breezes having sharpened the appetites of all.

After sailing around the river and bay, the steamer at 6 o'clock made a landing at St. George's, Staten Island, where dinner was served in the Casino to fully 200 gentlemen.

Mr. Theodore N. Vail was heartily cheered but his modesty would not permit him to reply in a speech. Mr. Erasmus Wiman responded to calls in his usual humorous fashion.

Mr. A. B. Chandler, president of the Postal, General Barnum and Chas. A. Tinker renewed old acquaintances. The last time these gentlemen met was in Washington at the breaking out of the war, when General Barnum met young Tinker and Chandler, fresh from Ohio, eager to serve their country as operators or soldiers.

Brief addresses were made by Mr. Chandler, General Barnum, Commissioner Gibbens and others.

Among those present were G. G. Ward, Mr. DeCastro and Mr. Rosener, of the Commercial Cable; Mr. Johnstone, of Philadelphia; General Superintendent Merrihew, of the Western Union Co.; Mr. E. C. Cockey, of the Western Union and T. R. Taltavall of the Associated Press.

At 8.30, the entire party repaired to the grand stand, where Nero, or the Fall of Rome, was witnessed.

The party returned to New York at 10 o'clock, after thoroughly enjoying the numerous pleasures of the day.

## TYPEWRITING RECORD BROKEN.

123 WORDS PER MINUTE BLINDFOLDED.

[FROM CHICAGO Times, Sept 6th.]

Frank E. McGurrin, of Salt Lake City, cracked the record of fast typewriting at the Methodist Church block last night. Mr. McGurrin is on his way home from the east and the exhibition last night was given at the request of a number of expert Chicago typewriters and stenographers, who were a little skeptical that the speed accredited to McGurrin could be attained. Their breath was fairly taken away when the expert rattled off 125 words from new matter in one minute, and made but three errors. In writing, Mr. McGurrin uses all his fingers except the left thumb. Miss M. E. Orr, of New York, who ranks next to McGurrin, uses only the forefinger of each hand. As the natural method would appear to be the use of all the fingers, Miss Orr's speed appears all the more remarkable.

The first exercise last night was a one-minute exhibition. Mr. McGurrin read his own copy and wrote 105 words. In the second minute exercise 108 words were written. The third exercise was a five minute test. The matter was new

and was dictated by I. S. Dement from an extract of a court trial. It was difficult matter, but the operator warmed up and at the end of the five minutes had written 583 words, making 37 errors. A deduction for errors left a net average of 115 words a minute. In the recent international contest at Toronto, which was won by Miss Orr, McGurrin being second, the average in the five minutes contest was 98.7 words a minute, the fastest time made up to that date. Since that time, however, at Lake George McGurrin attained a speed of 108 3-5 words a minute. That was the best known record in the world up to last night. While the 115 words a minute beat the Lake George time, the next performance excelled even that and carried the spectators away. It was a blindfolded test of one minute. Mr. Dement carefully tied a handkerchief about the operator's eyes and began dictating new matter from a court record. At the first click of the machine the judges began noting the time. At the end of a minute time was called, and after the words were counted it was found the marvelous feat of writing 125 words in a minute had been attained. But three errors were made and the matter was properly punctuated. The announcement was greeted with enthusiastic hand-clapping, and all the typewriters rushed forward to shake hands with the expert. Mr. McGurrin is very modest, and was inclined to credit the success of the last feat to the correct manner in which the matter was dictated. The judges were F. W. Ganse, 409 First National bank building, and C. Bayless, of Dubuque, Iowa.

Representative Laird of Nebraska, has introduced a resolution in the House arraigning the Western Union Telegraph monopoly and asking the setting apart of a day for the consideration of the postal telegraph measure. Mr. Laird said: "The assumption that the postal telegraph system would involve loss is not sustained by the facts furnished from the business history of the Western Union Telegraph Company. That can and does pay a dividend upon a capital of \$80,000,000. The government system would only have to earn expenses and interest upon an amount not exceeding one-third of that sum. If a postal telegraph bill is not to be passed the country ought to know it, to the end that the additional hazard to come from government interferences should no longer bar the erection of competing lines, and the consequent healthy regulation of charges. As to the objection of the multiplicity of officers under this bill, it might as well be raised against the postal system; and attached to this system, as it would be, the objection largely disappears, because in most instances there would be no change in the number, but simply in the character of the employes."—*Journal of United Labor.*

The organ in St. Paul's church is now furnished with lung power by an electric motor. In the latter part of August an electric motor was placed on the floor near the organ, but in the several experiments that followed it was found that the vibration of the machine were too perceptible. It was tried in several positions, and was finally found to give satisfaction and make no noise when placed above the entrance to the choir. The power is furnished by the Edison Company. The contrivance is under control of the organist, who at the key-board can apply or cut off the power by touching a button at his side.

It is stated that until recently, a small uptown branch office was situated in a barber shop, and the tonsorial artist was no other than the operator. It frequently happened that in answering his call he would say; "Min. shaving a customer." The telegram had to wait, but the distant operator was perplexed as to the meaning of the "stand off."

The Western Union Company is now putting a line of wire along the Detroit, Bay City & Alpena railway, thus giving additional and much needed telegraph facilities along the Lake Huron shore.



## PITTSBURGH'S MAGNIFICENT NEW TELEGRAPH OFFICE.

The Western Union bid farewell to the old quarters on Aug. 12th, in the Germania Bank building, which has been occupied since the fire, July 10th, '87, and took possession of the elegant quarters located in the 6th story of the First National Bank building, corner of Wood and Fifth avenue. The work was under the direction of Chief Electrician Gerritt Smith, of New York, and Superintendent C. O. Rowe, assisted by Manager Cole and Chief Operator Williams. The office is, without doubt, the finest and most complete in the country. The removal was accomplished without a break. Chief Engineer Brown, of New York, had the dynamos all in readiness and as they cut loose from the Pittsburgh Electric Light Co., which company has been furnishing part of the power in the old quarters, Mr. Brown started the wheels. Unfortunately a severe storm visited that vicinity Sunday night, prostrating over half the wires and laid them out badly for the Monday opening. But in a short time communication in all directions was resumed and business moved as usual. From the operating room an elegant view is obtained of the city and adjacent hills, it towering high above the surrounding buildings. The operating room, 40x90 with an 18 feet ceiling, has all the latest improvements. Among them is a local spring jack switchboard which contains all the local loops, from every quadruplex, duplex and single repeater or set in the office, by which any circuit or circuits can be made up immediately, as called for. The main switchboard can accommodate 180 wires and now has 160. There are 19 quads, 25 polar duplexes and 12 single sets of repeaters, all arranged at one end of the room so as to be under the immediate supervision of the repeater men assigned to that duty. The Commercial News department, with W. H. Smith in charge, occupies one corner of the room, and has all the improved facilities for supplying subscribers with quotations as received from New York and Chicago. There are also 60 single sets of instruments and the New York and St. Louis Wheatstone repeaters. Over each table is hung an incandescent lamp which at night gives the office an imposing appearance both inside and from the streets. The main lines and loops, of which latter alone there are 75, enter the building through underground cables, of which the company have laid a number through the streets during the summer and which have, so far, proven a success. The wires are brought up to the dynamo room, which is directly under the operating department, in flues and from there distributed through cables under the floor to the switchboards. The instrument wires are run from the board to the tables in the same manner, no wires being visible in the entire room. The fifth floor is occupied by the dynamo, lunch, coat and toilet rooms. In the dynamo department there are three series of five dynamos each, one being a reserve. There are also two local dynamos. These are being used here for the first time, as an experiment, but having proved successful, they will likely be generally adopted by the company in other large offices. The dynamo current does the work which formerly required 15,000 cells of gravity. On the fourth floor are the bookkeepers, foreman of construction and office supply rooms, all well equipped. The receiving department for the public is still in the old quarters and is connected with the operating room by a suction tube operated by a small motor in the dynamo room.

The staff is :

J. W. Clark, Manager,  
T. D. Williams, Chief Operator,  
M. H. Markle, Assistant Chief Operator,  
M. M. Munson, Traffic Chief.

## WIRE CHIEFS.

W. H. Maize, G. M. Eitemiller.

## REPEATER CHIEFS.

L. McMullen B. F. Lawn.  
F. L. Bender, Night Chief Operator,  
W. D. Vincent, Asst. Night Chief,  
George Stuart, Wire Chief,  
S. P. Hill, Repeater Chief,

## ALL NIGHT RECEIVERS.

T. E. Moreland, P. J. McKeever.

Among the old timers we note S. L. Gilson, Charles Stough, Captain Ryan, John Byrne, D. Ways and others. The force of eighty operators will be given in another letter.

The dynamo room is in charge of Messrs Lucock, Stump and Kendricks. The veteran line foreman, General George Morris is assisted by Messrs Hollister, Mayne and Collins. George Morse, Hunter and others have returned to the W.U.

WASHINGTON NOTES—The Craig system of automatic telegraphy has been on exhibition at the capitol, under the management of W. E. Athearn, of Brooklyn. It undoubtedly has some features of merit, but it will be hard to make an old telegrapher pin his faith to anything more modern than the ancient Morse key. Mr. W. E. Peirce has sailed for England, where he will visit relatives. There is an heiress at the residence of W. R. Andrews, chief operator for the Postal, and judging from the sleepless appearance of his eyes recently, it is supposed she is musically inclined. The prolonged, and non-legislative, session of Congress which has degenerated into partisan and personal squabbles for "buncombe", while disgusting the fair-minded public, is proving a godsend to telegraphers; not only have both companies retained their full winter forces, but the irrepressible "scoopist" is enjoying unabated prosperity. Speaking of legislators, during the recent debate which culminated in an iron-clad law prohibiting the erection of electric wires within the city limits after Sept. 15th, some astounding assertions were made by representatives, which it is to be hoped, are not criterions of their knowledge on other debated subjects. For instance, one member asserted that there were, in the Postal conduit, 500 wires,—more than enough to meet telegraphic requirements—deducing the theory therefrom that overhead trunk lines are unnecessary. The fact is that there are not over *six* wires in the conduit. A suburban electric road is being built, connecting the city with Soldiers Home. It is the first ever constructed here. The telegraph, and telephone people have been utilizing every available lineman in running dead wires all over the city, preparing for the exigencies of the future, against the time when no more wires can be strung.

RENO, NEV., V. & T. and C. & C. RY. NOTES. Business is lively, on at least the V. & T. part of above railways, and the prospects of the C. & C. are very good indeed. This latter, which connects with the V. & T., at Mound House, Nev., and runs south to Keeler, Cala., will next summer be extended south to Mojave, Cala., to connect with the Southern Pacific system, making a short route from Nevada to Southern California. Perhaps there are more young lady station agents on this line than on any other railway of its length in the United States. We know of at least four and every one of them handsome and smart. They are Miss Hansfield, at Soda Springs, Miss Humphreys, at Franktown, Miss Naylor, at Luning and Miss Hale at Alvord. Mr. Chris Zabriskie, of the Western Union, at Candelaria, has taken unto himself a wife. His friends, and they are many, all wish him happiness and prosperity. There are few changes among the boys on these roads. Good wages are paid and the officials very agreeable and well liked, and the boys know when they are well off. Mrs. Carder, late manager W. U., at Carson, has resigned and gone East. Mr. Will Corbett is her successor. Mr. Al Schiveley, late of Austin, is relieving Wallace Coffin, at Dayton. Billy Lord is also relieving agent and operator on the C. & C.



## PERSONAL MENTION.

Gordon Fisher, a Flint & Pere Marquette telegraph operator, at Freeland, Mich., was taken to East Saginaw Sept. 12th, in a terribly mangled condition. While walking on a freight train he fell between the cars and was dragged by a brake beam a long distance. All the fingers of his right hand were crushed off, his right hip dislocated, and one leg terribly lacerated and broken near the ankle. He has been taken to a hospital there for attendance.

Mr. Tom O'Reilly has been appointed associate editor of the *Journal of United Labor*, the official organ of the Knights of Labor, and will be located at Philadelphia, until the end of November. He is still conducting the work of organization among the members of the craft, and believes that the operators throughout the country will be joined together in a union particularly strong in numbers, before the close of the present year.

S. M. Cook, for many years the successful and esteemed chief train dispatcher of the Eastern Division of the Lake Erie & Western road, has been appointed train master, to succeed J. H. Klein, resigned. T. A. Lantz succeeds Mr. Cook as chief dispatcher, while J. H. Jones takes the place made vacant by Mr. Lantz's promotion, and Joe Kearns of the Chicago & Atlantic, will fill the position vacated by Mr. Jones.

The report that Robert Garrett was dying at Ringwood, N. J., where he has been for some weeks, seems to be groundless. Mayor Hewitt went out Sept. 21st, to see his family at the farm and his first inquiry was about Mr. Garrett's condition. While he is a very sick man, there is no immediate danger.

Mr. John S. McClelland, formerly a prominent figure in telegraphic circles in New York, later night manager of the State Associated Press, now editor of the *Evening Star*, of St. Catharines, Ont., was in town last week, the guest of Mr. Louis Meloche, of the State Associated Press.

It looks as if it would be necessary to crowd the work in order to finish the programme on Friday. The papers of O. B. Shallenberger on "Electrical Measurements," and Wm. Lee Church on "Steam Engineering" will probably not be read as they are not yet in the hands of the Secretary.

BASE BALL.—Philadelphia. W. U., 2, Philadelphia, Postal 16. The Postal club is a crack nine, and they expect to make the New Yorkers scratch gravel when they get together, as they expect to soon.

The messenger boys at Memphis, Tenn., of the Western Union Telegraph Company, carried to a successful ending this week, a strike which they inaugurated for a change of pay day.

James Maloney, while at the top of a high pole, in Fort Wayne, Ind., a few days since, repairing wires, was precipitated to the ground receiving fatal injuries, by the breaking of the pole.

Mr. E. C. Keeler, for many years chief operator at Ogden, Utah, has joined Col. Steven's force at the general office of Central Pacific Ry. Co., San Francisco, vice W. B. Grier, resigned to engage in other business.

Mr. Frank Reynolds, of Denver, Col., has the sympathy of his numerous friends, in the loss of his eldest sister who died July 16.

Mr. Wm. Mayer, Jr., the well-known electrician, lecturer and writer, has been invited to deliver a lecture before the Buffalo Electrical Society.

E. H. Shields, night operator St. P. & D. Ry., at White Bear, Minn., committed suicide a few days ago, by shooting himself. His parents live at Spokane Falls, W. T.

Mr. E. J. Murphy, ex-manager of the B. & O. office, 19 New street, is now with Seymour, Baker & Co., 3 Exchange place.

Mr. Harry T. Slocum, a former well-known operator, now in the electrical business at Saratoga, N. Y., gave us a call a few days since.

The many friends of Mr. Wm. M. Gibson, sympathize with him over the loss of his son, who died two weeks since. Mr. Gibson has lost both of his children.

Mr. L. Horton, Jr., at one time night manager of the B. & O., this city, is now manager of the W. U. office at Colorado Springs, Colo.

Amos F. Learned, for many years the New York agent of the New England Associated Press, has been committed to an asylum for the insane.

Mr. W. E. Peirce, of the W. U., Washington, D. C., sailed for England, Sept. 20th. He will make a tour of England, Scotland and France and other countries on his bicycle.

Mr. J. B. Yohe, late chief dispatcher, has been appointed assistant to general superintendent, E. Holbrook, of the Pittsburg & Lake Erie.

T. M. B. A.—Assessment 221 has been levied to meet the claims arising from the deaths of T. M. Miler and F. W. McDonell, and should be paid before Oct 1.

Mr. F. Lucock, chief of Wheatstone department, W. U. office, Denver, Colo., is with the Mutual Union, at Pittsburg, Pa.

Manager T. F. Clohesey, of the Postal, Kansas City, Mo., is running in the Fourth District of Missouri, for representative.

Mr. S. G. St. Clair, manager Western Union office, Consolidated Exchange, has returned from a six week's vacation much improved in health.

H. V. Miller, has been appointed superintendent of telegraph of the Chicago & Alton, in place of W. K. Morley, appointed division superintendent.

Mr. Chas. F. Lantry, Western New York agent of the Hammond type-writer, a well-known ex-telegrapher, was in town last week.

W. H. Gunning, formerly of New York City, is now a member of Hoyt's Hole, in the Ground theatrical combination. He is a splendid tenor singer.

On August 4 New York experienced a very severe electric storm, which practically destroyed the usefulness of the wires.

The National Conduit Co., of Albany, N. Y., has been organized.

Mr. Frank B. Beach, formerly of St. Louis, is now with the W. U., at Detroit, Mich.

Mr. Day K. Smith, superintendent of the Kansas City Belt railway, is an old time telegrapher.

Mr. A. L. Marsh, of R. P. Flowers' bank, has been enjoying a well-earned vacation.

There is a vast difference between poison and person, yet in the Morse characters they are precisely the same.

A division of the Order of Railway Telegraphers is being organized in Buffalo.

Mr. O. K. Waite, late of Savannah, Ga., is now with the C. N. O. & T. P., at Somerset, Ky., as dispatcher.

Mr. L. J. Howell is with the Central R. R. of New Jersey at Newark, N. J.

Mr. W. M. Allison, of the New York *Times*, is sojourning in Mifflintown, Pa.

A St. Paul telegrapher was thrashed recently for beating a pool room.



RIVERS' ACADEMY,  
STATE AND COURT STS., BROOKLYN, N. Y.,  
THE TELEGRAPHERS' BALL—4TH YEAR,  
TUESDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 2D, 1888.  
TICKETS \$1.00.

MUSIC BY PROF. WILSON. DANCING AT 9 O'CLOCK.

"NOTICE."

Annual dramatic performance and reception to the New York telegraph operators at Turn Hall Theater, 66 and 68 East 4th street, New York City, on Monday evening, October 15th, at 8 P. M. Reception 10.30. Tickets admitting gentleman and ladies 50 cents. For sale at all telegraph offices.

WESTERN UNION NOTES.—Ed. Dean, Harvey Dutcher, Wm. Walton, W. Jacobs, Gus Kraushaar, Harry I. Jolly and Max Green also assisted in the handling of the 200,000 words of special, mentioned September 1st. Miss Alice Whelan, after an absence of nine weeks in Europe, has returned. Harry Hues has been added to the night force, which now comprises 23 men in each of the three sections. Considerable anxiety for Mr. Brennan's health has been expressed during the past few days of his illness, but it will be gratifying to his many friends to learn that he has resumed work. During his three weeks of enforced absence his duties as assistant manager have been ably performed by Mr. Con Myers. Mr. "Ham" Fitchett has just returned from Montreal where, in company with ninety-nine other members of the Poughkeepsie Hose Company, he participated in the exercises attendant upon the firemen's exhibition. During his absence Mr. E. E. Brannin, who has charge of the Erie and Jersey divisions, days, worked the first half of the night, when he was relieved by George E. Holbrook, traffic chief on the all night force, who completed the trick. Miss Nullie, after an absence of two years, is again with us. Miss Saunders, a well-known young lady telegrapher here, while boarding a Brooklyn Ferry boat, a few days ago, accidentally fell, sustaining injuries to her face and head of a most painful character. Her escape from death was a most narrow one. Western Chief McAllister, accompanied by his brother, W. A. McAllister, chief operator at the *World* office, attended the wedding a few days ago of their sister, at Stuyvesant. Mr. Herroll, son of State Senator Herroll, of Georgia, is on the waiting list pending the raising of quarantine restrictions, when he will resume his old position in Jacksonville, Fla. Miss Coxon is in a broker office for a month. Miss Mollie O'Meara arrived from Europe on the "Alaska," on the 10th. The several days absence of Mr. Yackley from his accustomed seat on Fall River, was due to the almost fatal illness of his little girl, who, while playing, fell, sustaining a concussion of the brain. Happily, she is now on the road to recovery. Miss Masterson, one of the best known operators in the city and for some time past, assistant wire chief in that department, has gone to Ohio to enter a convent. The good wishes of a host of friends follow her. Miss Daly, than whom there is no lady official more popular, has relinquished the cares of chief in charge to Miss Hall, and gone on a vacation. The girls, and indeed the boys, by whom she is just as highly esteemed, look for her return on October 1st. Her position is being filled in a most creditable manner. L. N. Kirschbaum and Richard Lounsbury and Wm. Sterling and Dr. Weyant have exchanged places. Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Fones have the sympathy of their friends in the loss of their daughter, who died Sept. 25th. Mr. Conrad Myers, by long odds one of the most popular chiefs in the office has recently married. Congratulations. May the happy couple enjoy a life of unalloyed happiness and prosperity is the wish of all. Resigned:

Miss M. Downs, Miss M. E. Simmons,  
Mrs. James Clolery, Miss Sheridan.

Returned from vacations, summer offices, etc.:

Mr. J. C. Weir,	Miss A. Aherns,
Miss Annie O'Brien,	" Nellie Flynn,
" Jennie Powell,	Dr. McEnroe,
" Hogan,	Mr. VanHorn,
" Dawley,	" Becker,
" F. Miller,	Mrs. Becker.

Off on vacations and account of sickness, etc.:

Miss L. Hull,	Miss Lizzie Lynch,
" B. Taylor,	" McNally,
" Rose Flynn,	" Millie Patterson.

POSTAL NOTES.—Some very good work is being done on our Philadelphia duplex by J. F. McGuire and M. D. Barnwell, who between 8 A. M and 12.30 P. M. September 21, exchanged 515 messages with Messrs. McNichol and Pucey. Resigned, E. O'Grady to go with the Press News Association, and Miss Bessie Conway to go with a broker; Mr. Timothy Carey, the chief night clerk, is on the sick list; Charles Ruffner has transferred to the Greenwich street office; Appointments: Al. Hughes, nights; T. E. Burnell, C. Betts, J. J. Burke, Miss J. F. Duff and Miss Mamie Paul; to extra list, John Kane and C. P. Heyl. Miss Belle Rapaport has been added to the 91 Wall street force.

TRANSFERS.—J. C. Gilhousen, Williamsport, Pa., to Kansas City, Mo.; J. P. McGuerty, Waterbury, to Danbury, Conn.; W. S. Shackelford, Lake Waccamaw, N. C., to Charleston, S. C.; E. Johnson, Long Branch, N. J., to New York City; Terence Conaty, Hotel Kaaterskill, N. Y., to 195 Broadway, N. Y.; Miss Josie L. Bailey, Poland Springs, to Portland, Me., for the W. U.; E. G. Allen, Promontory, Utah, to Harlan, Iowa; Geo. Kent, St. Joseph, to Kansas City for the W. U.; Joe Rankin, St. Joseph, to Kansas City for the Postal; S. G. Washabaugh, Shippensburg, to Carlisle, Pa.; W. L. Moore, Huntland, Tenn., to Dallas, Tex.; Geo. S. Bleakney, Ogden, to San Francisco; G. S. Drown, Syracuse, N. Y., to Toledo, O., for the W. U.; W. A. Northrop, Fordham, to Pleasantville station, N. Y. for the W. U. as test operator and lineman: L. Boulet, Chandiere curve, to South Quebec, Que.; W. H. Harvey, St. Louis, to Postal, New York; Miss C. Reynolds, Galveston, to Converse, Tex.; W. T. Bonds, Port Perry to Dundas, Ont.; J. G. Minnie Sheffield, Ala., to Meridan, Miss., for the W. U.; C. W. Gechter, Mautua, Ohio, to Carbondale, Pa.; A. Flinn, Kingman, Arizona to Wellington, O.; J. N. Foulz, Renova, Pa., to Keating, Pa.; J. A. Fitznagel, Chicago to Peoria, Ills.; E. C. Watkins, Eagle Pass, Tex., to Yoakum, Tex.; Chas. Smith, Meridian to Hattiesburg, Miss.; H. W. Cleveland, Alexander Bay to Syracuse, N. Y., for the Postal; Robert Fanning, Long Branch, N. J. to New York City; R. J. Curran, Drummond, Mont., to Sprague, W. T. Chas. Renouards, Denver, Col., to Brooklyn, N. Y.

Chief Operator Gurley and Night Chief Sayres, of Cleveland, O., recently visited the new Pittsburgh office and were highly pleased with its appearance. Mr. A. C. Terry, one of Buffalo's chiefs, also made a journey to Pittsburgh in search of more light in the formation of a model telegraph office. While he could not back a pair of mustangs, he does agree that Pittsburgh is a big town.

Mr. G. F. Jones has been made chief operator of the Postal, Stock Exchange. Mr. E. W. Radigan is the manager, but having a district to look after, virtually vests that authority in Mr. Jones, who is securing for the company a good share of the patronage of the bulls and bears.

Mr. A. J. Voyer, manager of the American Telegraph and Telephone Co., Saratoga, N. Y., has been transferred to the head office, Boston, Mass.

Mr. E. F. Welsh, up to 1883, a well-known New Yorker, since then a resident of Montana, has returned to New York.

A rumor reached us on September 26th, by cable, that the French telegraphers are on strike.



## MY FIRST BULL.

BY FEDORA.

It was in the days of youth and romance, when everything seemed rose color, I, having completed (or fancied I had) the study of "the mystic art," presented myself to Superintendent B—— as a candidate for the vacant position of telegraph operator at Tangle-town—an appropriate name, I found later, judging from my own experience telegraphically. The worthy superintendent regarded me somewhat doubtfully, but proceeded to apply the test. This I passed; but he still seemed dissatisfied. I assured him that I was able to receive from 30 to 35 words per minute, but was nervous in the presence of a first-class operator, like himself. This remark carried the day, and accordingly to Tangle-town I went. It is not my intention to describe the place, or to relate my many difficulties and discouragements; but I awoke to the consciousness that the path of the telegraph operator especially the novice, is by no means a path of roses. My troubles arose, not from the superabundance of messages handled, nor from lack of faithful attendance to my duties; but I was obliged to work with a very fast, not to say a good sender, and a crank withal, who considered it both an insult to his sending, and a mortal offence if I broke more than once in a message. To this and to my natural stupidity, I attribute my first bull, or rather the first one that came to light.

There was one pleasant feature connected with Tangle-town, and this alone reconciled me to the place. I had made a friend, two friends rather—Percy and Gladys Thorne. He about twenty, she sweet sixteen. They were brother and sister, and in their company, but more especially the latter, I spent many a delightful hour.

Time passed, and I was beginning to wonder how I had ever thought Tangle-town an unpleasant place. On the contrary, I realized that for me there was no happiness outside of it, while Gladys remained there. In a word, I was deeply in love with her. I had made no declaration as yet, fearing that my extreme youth and modest income would be considered an obstacle by Mrs. Thorne, who was a widow, not fat, but fair and forty, and very comfortably off. I was vain enough to believe that my feelings for Gladys were in a measure reciprocated by her, and I was content to bide my time. Almost every day I had the good fortune of spending an hour or more in her society and her brother's, and we became the firmest of friends.

It was on one of the dreariest days imaginable, that I made this, my first (?) bull, and if every bull was the cause of as much anxiety and unhappiness (for the time being) to the operator making it, as this one was to me, it is my opinion that there would be very few made. On this particular day a heavy rain was falling, and the wind was blowing a regular gale, such as it can do only in the month of March. My wires worked very badly, and it was with great difficulty that I managed to get anything that was sent to me. About 4 P. M. I received the following message:—No. 12. Check 16 Paid.

Dated Cincinnati, O., 17,  
To Harvey Ladd, Sheriff,

Tangle-town.

Arrest Thorne, Tangle-town, at once. Keep him there till morning, then bring here on first train.

CAPT. R. PARTRIDGE.

This was duly delivered and I thought no more about it. An hour later I was surprised to see Gladys enter my office hurriedly, in almost a state of frenzy. Before she spoke a word it flashed across my mind that it was her brother and my friend, Thorne, whom Sheriff Ladd had been ordered to arrest. "Oh! Howard," she cried despairingly (this was the first time she had so called me, although I had often wished she would) "what shall I do? Sheriff Ladd has arrested my brother, and will keep him locked up all night. Oh! why is

it? I am sure he is innocent of any crime." I tried to comfort her, and assured her that I would see what could be done, and I hoped it would all come right yet. She gave me one grateful look, and immediately departed.

My first thought was, "Is it possible that I made a mistake in that message? Could the name be wrong?" I at once determined to send for a duplicate, or at least to get "Cn" office to repeat it. I opened the key to call; alas! the wire was dead open. I tried the other wire with the same result. I grounded and cross-connected every few minutes, but all to no purpose. Both wires remained dead open. My office closed at 7 P. M., but I did not go home. I sat there until 8 o'clock watching those wires, hoping and praying that one at least would close. At 8.15 I determined to go to N——, the next telegraph station, which was six miles distant, and get that message repeated, providing he had a wire, which was somewhat doubtful. The local train had left ten minutes before, and the next was not due for two hours; but go I would, even if I had to go through fire and water, and the latter was plentiful enough. With some difficulty I secured a horse, and springing into the saddle, urged the poor beast on at a frightful pace through the darkness and the storm. Arrived at N——, I found to my great joy that he was working O. K. with "Cn" office. After a great deal of asking and waiting I got the message repeated. The check was now 18 Paid, and it read:—

"Arrest T. Horne, of Tangle-town, at once," etc.

In receiving it before I had made "T. Horne" one word, "Thorne," and I had dropped out the word "of," making 16 words which corresponded with my check. Owing to the bad condition of my wire, I had mistaken the figure 18 for 16, and thus it happened. I made all haste to get back to Tangle-town, arriving there a little after midnight, and delivered the correct message to the sheriff. He indulged in a few expletives when he read it, as the individual, T. Horne, was a slippery customer, and had been "wanted" for some time. He asked no questions as to how the mistake occurred, and I did not consider it my duty to commit myself by explaining. I had the pleasure of escorting poor Thorne (the innocent victim of my error) home, where we found Gladys and her mother still sitting up and weeping bitterly. But at the sight of us their mourning was speedily turned to rejoicing. As for me, before I could utter a word in explanation, I was overwhelmed with praise and gratitude. In vain I tried to explain that it was my fault; they would not listen. I was a deliverer, and a hero in their eyes, and I was obliged to content myself with the thought that all had turned out well.

I left Tangle-town soon afterward to engage in a more lucrative profession, convinced that telegraphy was not my forte. But before leaving I had the joy of knowing that I was beloved by my sweet Gladys, and that Mrs. Thorne had no objection to my becoming her son-in-law at some time in the course of events. Gladys and I were married two years later, and I feel that I owe my happiness to my first bull. "All's well, that ends well."

WOES OF FRENCH TELEGRAPHERS.—Paris, Sept. 13.—The city is threatened with a severance of telegraphic communication with all parts of the world. Operators and clerks of telegraph offices to the number of 600 held a meeting yesterday and resolved to open a subscription which would enable them to put themselves in communication with the telegraphers in all parts of France for the purpose of securing united action for the redress of their grievances. A committee was appointed to draw up and lay before the minister of posts and telegraphs a petition complaining of the unjust system of promotion in the service, long hours of work, insufficient pay, extra labor imposed without remuneration, and other causes of discontent, which they respectfully ask the government to take into consideration.







SARATOGA NOTES.—The season has about closed and the operators have gone to their several homes for the winter. Many of the force were men of skill and wide experience, which is absolutely necessary at this point, in the proper handling of the enormous business. The force was as follows:

H. L. Waterbury, manager,  
Geo. H. Schmidt, chief operator.

## OPERATORS.

W. C. Leith,	Joseph Ahern,
C. Horan,	Mr. Calkins,
Fred Waring,	Frank Fancher,
Miss R. Michealis,	R. B. Griffin,
Henry Becker,	Mrs. I. Holmes,
Miss L. J. Allen,	Miss Poinier.

## CLERKS.

C. H. Buckridge, E. N. Cole, Mr. Ouderkirk.

Mr. Harry T. Slocum, a well-known telegrapher, carries on an extensive and profitable electrical business at this point.

KANSAS CITY NOTES.—The removal of the Board of Trade branch office from the old to the new board has caused a few changes in the main office. Mr. Meredith, the former manager of the office has been transferred to the main office, Mr. Marshall succeeding him. Mr. Chester Beeson, formerly wire chief, is now at the new board office. Mr. Redline has been transferred from night to day traffic chiefship, and Mr. Higgins promoted to night traffic chief. The Pacific Mutual will soon remove to its new and elegant quarters on Eighth and Delaware streets. The interior of the W. U. main office has been handsomely painted and decorated. Mr. H. E. Bender and Abbie Brooks, and Mr. Manter and Miss Jennie Flanders, all of the W. U. main office, were married during the past week. The W. U. main office is hiring its full share of cheap talent.

LONG ISLAND, RY. NOTES.—Mr. George G. Ebbert, at Woodhaven, has resigned and gone to Chicago for the C. B. & Q. Ry. Mr. A. J. Coombs relieves Mr. Ebbert. Mr. B. F. Kelley is at the general offices, and J. J. Kelley, at Holland. Seaside office has been closed. J. H. Hill is at Hammel's Station, where the W. U. also have an operator. Mr. A. Seamens is dispatcher in the tower at Woodhaven Junction, and J. M. McGee has been promoted to train dispatcher, at long Island City. In a week or two several good operators will be laid off for the winter, but no doubt they will secure other employment elsewhere.

BOSTON NOTES.—The Direct United States Cable Company has opened an independent cable office here in the Post office building. From this office there are two separate and independent direct connections with England, France and Germany, thus giving the cabling public of Boston facilities for correspondence with the outer world not enjoyed by any other city in the United States. The office is under popular management, and the public has already shown its appreciation of this enterprise by a large share of patronage.

TORONTO NOTES.—The Canadian Pacific Telegraph Company have opened a number of new offices in Ontario and Quebec. That company now have 728 offices and have only been in existence about two years. All the officials and operators of the C. P. R. have returned from their vacations with the exception of Miss Thorley, who is taking a month's vacation.

Moore Bros., 108 Liberty street, New York, have just issued a neat pocket catalogue giving a description of the electrical goods handled by them. The book contains all the important information regarding electrical and telegraph instruments, electric bells, etc., and copies can be had upon application.

DALLAS NOTES.—There is not an idle operator in the state and first-class men are in demand. The following are the changes in the W. U. worthy of note: Miss Irene Haughowout has just returned from an extended tour through the North. Messrs Moore and Haney, of the night force, after a month's vacation visiting relatives, have returned. Among the latest arrivals are: Messrs Kelly, Mowbry, Champ, Garrett, Read, Watson and Miss Judkins, formerly manager W. U. at Gainsville, Tex. Departures: Jo Adams, Omaha; Carpenter, Galveston; D. W. Hausam to T. & P. Ry. The force is now composed of twenty-five good operators; business is handled promptly and in good shape.

Now that Mr. Garrett is known to be a victim of paresis, old acquaintances of the family hereabouts, says the Philadelphia Times, are recalling his former eccentricities. Robert Garrett has always been an odd sort of a person. At one time he was a collector of canes, and he no doubt now owns more walking sticks and fancy umbrellas than any other fashionable gentleman in the country. In clothing he was just as peculiar. His tailors were always engaged on some new conceit of his in fashionable attire. He was a most particular man about his personal appearance. He had a hobby on dress and style, and his wealth permitted him to indulge it to his heart's delight. The stories about Mr. Garrett overworking himself are all nonsense. Robert Garrett took life easier than any other railroad magnate in the country. His father shortened his days by constantly worrying over great railroad schemes, but his sons did not follow in his footsteps. After his father's death, when Robert Garrett assumed control and learned the true condition of affairs, he worried some at first, but the burden of the thinking was done by Mr. John K. Cowen his old friend and Princeton classmate, who then and now ably filled the position of chief counsellor of the Baltimore and Ohio Company.

Mr. Owen Jones, of Australia, who is promoting the trans-Pacific cable between Canada and Australia, is at Ottawa, Ont. He feels confident the cable will be completed within 18 months. Sir John McDonald, the premier, has agreed on behalf of the Dominion Government to assist the enterprise, provided the other colonial Governments interested in the matter do likewise. "All that is now required before work is commenced," says Mr. Jones, "is to secure a guarantee of £75,000 per annum, equal to 4 per cent. on an investment of £2,000,000." He expects aid from the British, Australian and Canadian governments, the subsidy from the latter, it is estimated, being between £7,000 and £10,000 per annum. A strong company has been formed to build the cable.

It is said to be the policy of the managements of the Lake Shore and the Michigan Central roads to discharge all operators who are members of the Order of Railway Telegraphers. Why discriminate against members of this Order, and employ members of other railway labor organizations? Is it because of the claim that the telegraphers have a non-striking organization? The Railway Telegraphers, the non-striking organization, is singled out from the rest, and are thus rewarded for adopting as a principle of their Order, a declaration which they supposed would indicate greater loyalty to employers' interests.—*Railway Service Gazette*.

The ELECTRIC AGE, now in its seventh volume, is one of the best of the periodicals devoted to electrical news, etc. It is published semi-monthly at No. 5 Dey street, New York, and is well filled with items of news and discussions of electrical subjects. Detroit Indicator, September 15th.

HOW TO REMIT MONEY.—The safest way to remit is by post office money order, which is absolutely certain of reaching its destination. Express orders are also safe. Registered letters and postal notes, while reliable, are not positively safe. Bank checks and drafts are quite safe.



THE YELLOW FEVER SCOURGE.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., NOTES.—The country has once more to feel under obligation to the telegraph, for this is about the only avenue of communication open to the plague stricken city. Were it not for the wires, the people would remain in perfect ignorance as the extent of the fever and the requirements of the sufferers. Those who have stood by the wires day and night are heroes of the first magnitude, and unstinted praise is due them one and all for their devotion to duty. No one would or could blame any person fleeing from such a scourge as is the yellow fever. Those in charge of the wires have labored hard and assiduously, which was necessary owing to the great increase in business and the short force. The heroes on duty are :

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Superintendent Dillon,     |                          |
| Operators, W. J. Wallace,  | Operators, J. P. Rivers, |
| “ T. F. Wallace,           | “ C. F. Sweeney,         |
| “ Geo. H. Armstrong,       | “ G. G. Hollenbeck,      |
| “ J. C. Robbins,           | “ C. H. Birkner,         |
| “ J. R. Daniel,            | “ V. G. Shearer,         |
| “ W. F. Ford,              | “ W. H. Turner,          |
| Bookkeeper, R. H. Fleming, |                          |
| Clerk, W. D. Webb,         |                          |
| “ P. J. Mahoney,           |                          |
| “ Miss A. O'Connor,        |                          |
| “ H. Smith,                |                          |
| “ C. C. Converse,          |                          |
| Office boy, C. W. Wallace, |                          |

Superintendent Dillon has had a relapse and is absent. J. R. Daniel has recovered.

Chas. F. Sweeney was taken sick on September 19. Geo. H. Armstrong is still on the sick list.

H. L. Robinson died of the fever September 15. Bookkeeper Fleming is now in charge of the office.

H. Smith and C. C. Converse, clerks, have recovered.

The wife of Mr. W. J. Wallace died September 19th. He was her constant attendant during her brief sickness.

Superintendent Dillon was notified to send at his discretion all telegrams from relief committees generally, and all managers throughout the country have been authorized to accept messages free, pertaining to the relief of yellow fever sufferers. Individual business messages, of course, do not come under this order. But it is a fact that over ninety per cent. of the Jacksonville messages are free, for the reason that no business is now being transacted of consequence. General Superintendent Merrihew says the small force is just about kept busy handling the free business, and no effort has been made to increase the force, for it would be certain death to send unacclimated people to Jacksonville. Many volunteers have, however, offered their services.

Mr. Merrihew very wisely ordered that Superintendent Dillon be not permitted to resume work until he has thoroughly recovered. Mr. Dillon is recovering from his relapse and desired to return to the office, thus assuming further risks.

The following speaks for itself :

JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Sept. 16th, 1888.

JAS. MERRIHEW, Esq.,

Genl. Supt., New York :—Your letter to Mr. Dillon, advising appropriation by executive committee, of your company for the relief of our people, has been handed to me, with check for \$500, and we thank you and the committee for the great and continuing sympathy and liberality of which we are the recipients and beneficiaries. Our gratitude goes out to you gentlemen of the Western Union Company, a hundred times every day, for by your kind consent, which is the very munificence of charity, you make possible to us by the free use of your facilities everything remote or near, that may be required to ameliorate or relieve our terrible condition. Whatever the mercenary or cynical may say, we know

that there is a grand humanity in and directing your company.

(Signed)

JAMES M. SCHUMACHER,  
Chairman, Finance Committee.

When the ELECTRIC AGE correspondent, Mr. J. R. Daniel, was stricken down with the fever, Mr. C. F. Sweeney took charge of our interest. After Mr. Daniel had recovered and returned to the office Mr. Sweeney was stricken down and is now quite sick.

The operators, just as we predicted, are not to be forgotten. The fund of the New York *World* for the benefit of the telegraph operators who have so nobly stuck to their post in the face of all danger meets with great favor, and bids fair to swell to most generous proportions, as it should, and any sums of money sent to us for that purpose will be handed to the *World's* fund. There, no doubt, are very many members of the craft who would like to reward their associates for their bravery. Among the heroes is Miss A. O'Connor who has stuck to her post throughout the epidemic. Her lady associates throughout the country can reward this noble girl in a very appreciative manner, if they desire, and any remittances sent us for that purpose will be duly acknowledged and forwarded.

Operator Ford is down with a relapse ; Mr. Sweeney is getting along nicely ; Mr. Webb was taken Sept. 21 ; Chief Operator Wallace is back with us once more ; his wife's sad death has completely broken him down ; Mr. Wade from New Orleans and Deforest from Detroit have arrived.

The gas having failed candles furnished us with light at night time.

Messrs Birkner and Hollenbeck both succumbed to yellow Jack, on Sept. 23, making seven operators in all now down with the fever.

OFFICIAL



Report of the Committee appointed to conduct the Speed Contest at Toronto, August 13th, 1888.

“On General Writing—law evidence and commercial matter—\*Miss M. E. Orr won the Gold Medal for the Championship of the World. \*Mr. McGurrian won the Silver Medal in the same class.

Committee: Thos. Pinkney, Pres.; N. Stewart Dunlop, Secretary ; C. E. Stanbury, W. W. Perry, Thomas McGillicuddy.”

\*Both of the winners used the Remington Typewriter. Pamphlets with portraits of Miss Orr and Mr. McGurrian sent free on application to

Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,  
327 Broadway, New York.



## MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

**MARRIED.**—Mr. John E. Hoey, of the Western Union office, Consolidated Exchange, was married on September 2d to Miss Sadie Magee, of Brooklyn. They have taken up their residence at Ridgewood, N. J. The numerous friends of the happy couple, both of whom were well-known and respected, extend their hearty congratulations.

**BORN.**—To Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Murphy, of this city, on Sept 10th, a daughter.

**DIED.**—C. Card, operator at the Walker House, Toronto, Ont., died a few days ago of typhoid fever, after three week's illness. Mr. Card had many friends in that city, who mourn his loss.

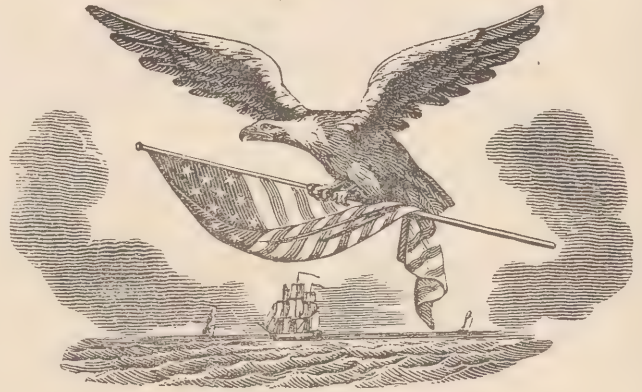
**DIED.**—James Ernest Howard died at Des Moines, Ia., September 19th, of consumption. Aged 23. He became a telegrapher, serving first as messenger, beginning about eight years ago in the Western Union office in Des Moines. He afterwards worked for a time in the Omaha office and for several months took press report at Sioux City. Mr. Howard was a gentleman by instinct and by rearing. Rather sedate in manner, he was still in his quiet way one of the most genial and companionable of men, and had his amiable life been spared he would have risen to the higher places in his calling, for he was honest ingrain. The funeral was well attended by operators, who designed an excellent floral offering bearing his private sign "V" and the figures "30". Mr. Fred Howard, a well-known Minneapolis operator and a name sake, attended the funeral.

The Philadelphia *Times* a few days ago published quite a lengthy account of three prominent New York telegraphers, namely J. E. Hoey, G. F. Jones and A. A. Offutt. The portraits of these gentlemen appeared in the article, which was highly complimentary.

The Postal Telegraph lines have reached Portland, Maine, where an office will be speedily opened.

ESTABLISHED 1823.

**ALBERT H. DAKIN,**  
(SON OF THE INVENTOR,)



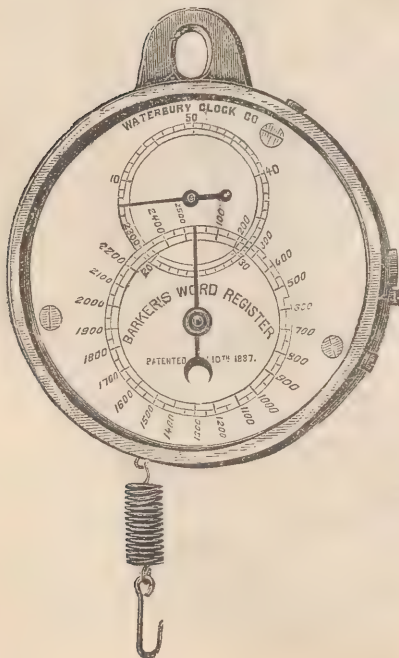
MANUFACTURER OF THE

**EAGLE BRAND OF MANIFOLD  
AND  
CARBON PAPERS,  
FOR  
STYLUS AND MACHINE WRITING,  
60 BARCLAY ST., NEW YORK.**

Prices on application

# THE BARKER AUTOMATIC WORD COUNTER FOR TYPE-WRITERS.

We wish to call the attention of all Telegraph Operators to this device.



No. 1.

Every Operator who receives on a typewriter knows the value of such a machine.

It registers the exact number of words in a message as soon as received.

It is already being used by quite a number of operators and they all indorse it,

It does not detract from the speed of the operator in the least. Every operator using a typewriter should have one.

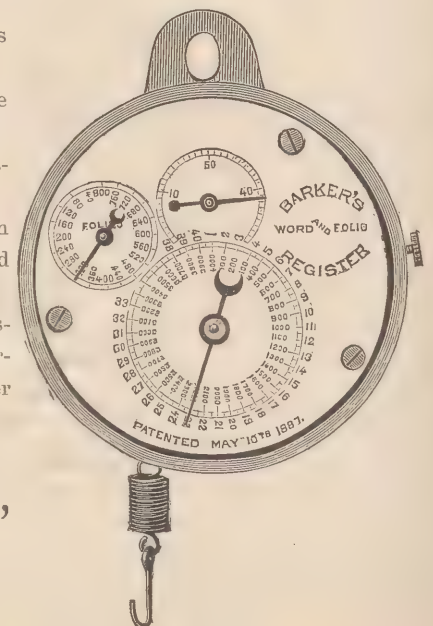
The No. 1 is especially adapted for commercial messages. The No. 2 for press reports. For further particulars and prices enquire of local agent for typewriter supplies or send to

**BARKER & TAYLOR,**

Patentees and Sole Manufacturers,

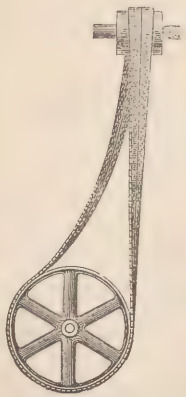
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MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.



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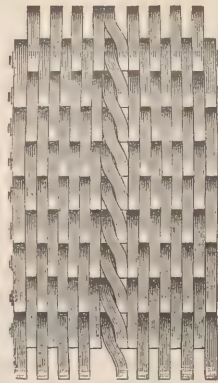
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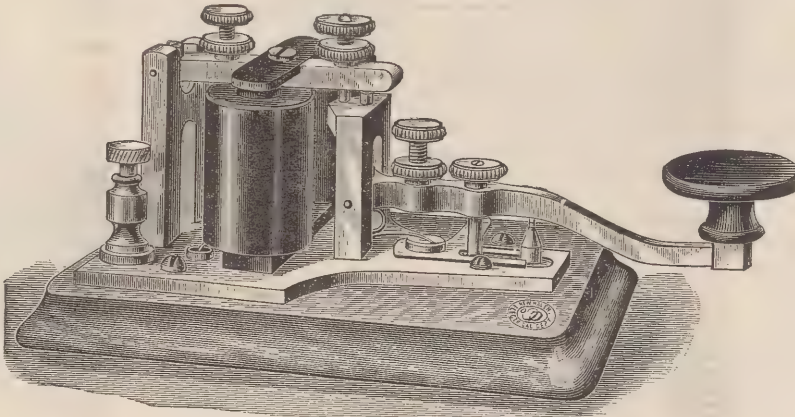
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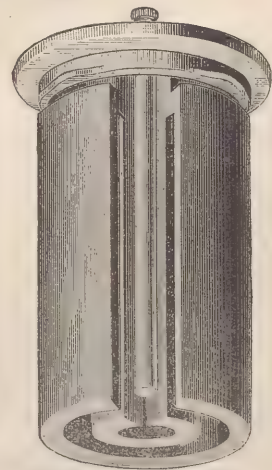
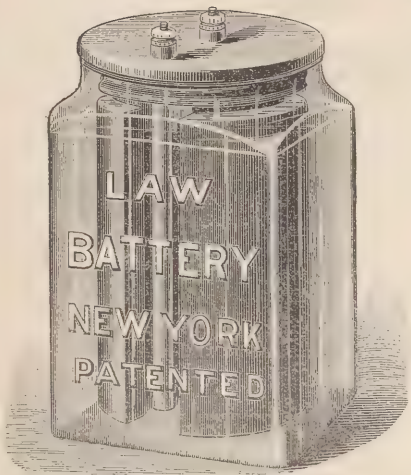
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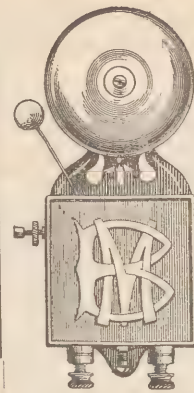


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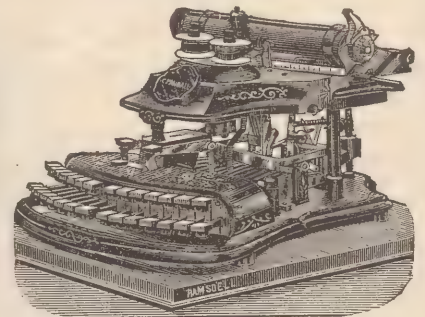
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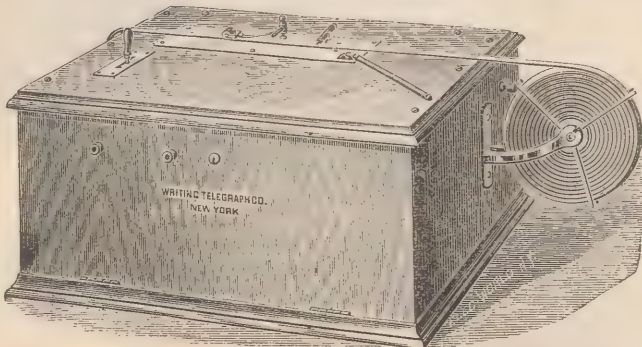


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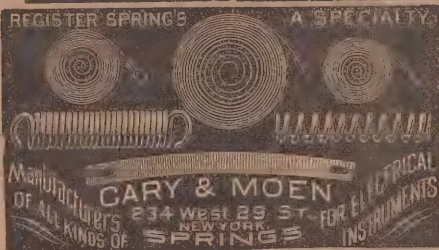
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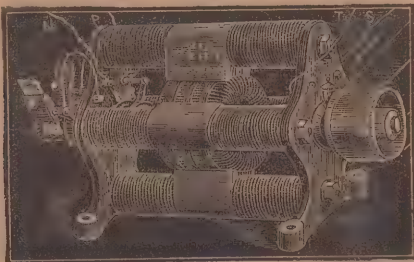
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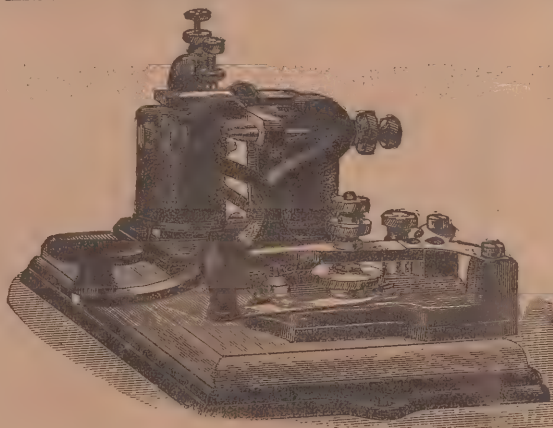
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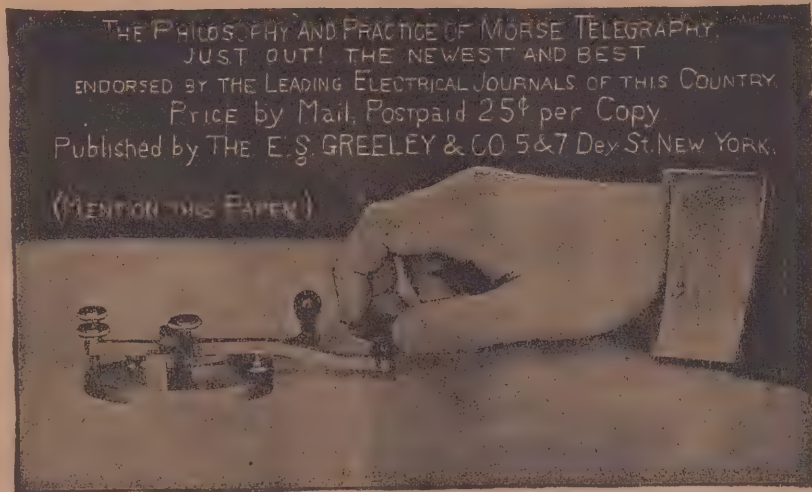
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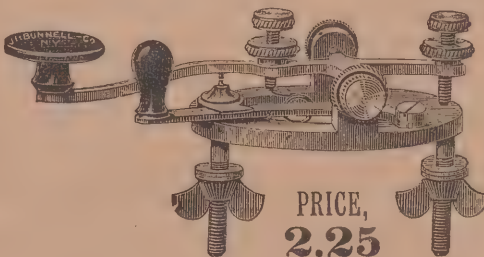
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## IT STANDS AT THE HEAD

ONE touch of the finger should produce any character used in a Writing Machine. Instruments that fail to accomplish this are deficient and do not fully meet the necessity that brought them forth. These facts are self-evident.

The No. 2 Caligraph is the only writing machine that fully economizes time and labor, and economy of time and labor is the best ground we have for soliciting trade.

Granting that we are in the front in this, we can show that our late improved machines excel in mechanical merit, durability and beauty of work. 10,000 Caligraphs are in daily use.

We publish 400 letters from prominent men and firms which are convincing.

THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

C. G. Muller, Agent Caligraph,  
Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati, October 5th, 1885.

Sir:—About three months since, I commenced to use the Caligraph with a view to receiving special despatches from the wires, instead of by the old method by the pen. In about three weeks I was able, by diligent practice, to write from thirty-five to forty words per minute. Since then I have been using the machine with success receiving from five to six thousand words per night upon it. We have found the machine of such value in the work as to be able to receive the despatches by code, or abbreviation, thus increasing this capacity of the wire, though the matter is written out in full upon the Caligraph. We make an average speed of fifty words per minute by this method, and expect to do still better work with it.

The machine is a No. 2 and must be a marvel of durability, as it has never been out of order under this continuous and heavy strain, and is always ready for use.

Very truly yours, Signed; Frank B. Ross, Opr. Commercial Gazette.

C. G. Muller, Esq., Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

October 5th, 1885.

above statement of our operator.

Dear Sir:—I cheerfully certify to the correctness of the Signed; Chas. E. Thorp, Telegraph Editor C. G.

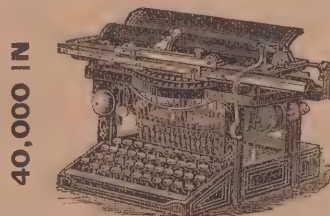
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# Remington Standard Typewriter.



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THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

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NEW YORK, Aug. 2, '88. Highest speed on correspondence.

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327 Broadway, New York.



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Registered Cable Address

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J. B. TALTAVALL, Editor and Publisher,  
C. H. BOGLE, Manager, Advertising Dept.

J. B. SABINE, Manager Patent Bureau,  
No. 5 Day St., New York.

NEW YORK, OCTOBER 16, 1888.

The daily papers have of late been confounding the Order of Railroad Telegraphers with the Brotherhood of Telegraphers. The former is a railroad organization and the latter the commercial operators' protective union. The railroaders have experienced some trouble with the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern and other railroads, and the newspapers hearing of the matter have invented a story to the effect that the commercial men will present a bill of grievances to the Western Union Company on the eve of the coming election, as a sort of a retaliatory measure. The Order of Railroad Telegraphers is a strictly non-striking one, and the commercial men have not, so far as we can learn, the slightest intention of interfering in their behalf. Of course, every intelligent person, who is posted as to the contents of the objects of the railroaders, realizes that the clause which prohibits student teaching, is the stumbling block, which the railroad companies will not sanction. The continuance in force of this clause for another year or two will result in making operators extremely scarce. In fact many roads are already complaining that operators cannot be found to fill the vacancies, which occur from time to time, and no applications are made for positions as was the case up to two years ago. Other roads again have had to advance salaries to retain the men. One thing is certain the railroaders have found the cause of low salaries, and are applying the remedy in a quiet but vigorous manner. The commercial men cannot but applaud and encourage their railroad brothers in their successful efforts to better their condition and the general railroad service. And at the same time the commercial fraternity is not behind to the fact that in a very short space of time they themselves will be an indirect gainer, for the reason that heretofore the railroad supply of students has been adequate to the requirements of the commercial offices, as well as those of the railroad.

According to a paper report, the San Francisco messenger boys' favorite amusement is stoning Chinamen.

The Commercial Cable Company all along during the cable war not only paid expenses but earned a dividend. This was owing to the efficient and conscientious service of the employes, who by reason of sharing in the company's welfare, felt well disposed towards its prosperity. Now that the company is making more money, it voluntarily advances the salaries of all its employes. This act of kindness, particularly at this season of the year, when it is customary to reduce expenses, has further enlisted the good will of the entire force in its favor, and if the company, in the future, is not even more prosperous than ever before, it will not be owing to any shortcomings of the force. "Good service, good men and good pay" is evidently the motto of the Commercial Company.

The Gold and Stock Life Insurance Company, whose membership, by the way, is composed of telegraphers in all departments and not as its name would imply confined to Gold and Stock employes, is making phenomenal and successful progress. By the quarterly report published in another column, the figures presented convince us that dues of fifty cents per month are quite ample to warrant the association in paying \$600 at death, and at the same time lay by, as it were, a snug sum, as a reserve fund to meet an unusual death rate. Again we congratulate the telegraphic profession in keeping in the front ranks with their benefit and insurance associations.

The Baltimore & Potomac Railroad Company is short of telegraph operators, and they are finding considerable difficulty in keeping their offices filled. Their force of operators is so short that they have to double up frequently, and recently they found it necessary to take men from Wilmington and Philadelphia to Washington to do a "trick" of duty and then go back. A few days ago an operator came from Elkton, a distance of ninety miles, to do twelve hours work at the Navy Yard station in Washington. The shortage is caused by the Brotherhood of Railroad Telegraphers putting a stop to the practice of the railroads having students in their offices.

But for the heroism of the Jacksonville telegraphic force, the world would remain in total ignorance of the condition of affairs in Florida. The policemen and firemen deserted their posts, but the telegraphers remained firm. In fact a hundred volunteers could be found in one day to go to the relief of their overworked brothers. By this one act, Jacksonville's little band of operators has lifted the profession, at large, high in the estimation of the world. In the meantime the fund for their relief and reward is growing to a sum worthy of their deeds of heroism.

The Postal Telegraph makes the claim that it is entitled to equal privileges with the Western Union in connection with the Pacific Railroad telegraph lines. This is also the view that the law takes; but the Postal people seem to be unacquainted with the theory of the corporation magnates that on the Pacific railroads the law doesn't count.—*Pittsburg Dispatch*.

St. Louis telegraph boys have struck because new lads have been put on at \$3 per week. The strikers declare that they have to carry bundles that ought to be delivered by wagons, and that the \$3 boys are not sent out on their turn. The strikers have been getting \$15 per month. The company claims that other firms pay only \$12 a month.

HOW TO AVOID RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.—The majority of railroad accidents are caused by incompetent employes. Therefore, if the salaries are made adequate to the living requirements of the average intelligent man, the tendency will be toward bettering the service.

The serious illness of Jay Gould has alarmed Wall street for some time. He was not too sick to swallow another railroad, but it is likely a new attack of indigestion will result.



## A ROMANTIC ROBBERY PLOT.

SAD ENDING OF OPERATOR VAN BUREN WHO WAS ONCE KIDNAPPED.

The body of an elderly man, evidently a tramp, was found alongside the Central Railroad track horribly mangled, a short time ago, near Tonawanda. Whether the case was one of accident or suicide is not known. Letters found in the clothing showed the dead man's name to be William Van Buren, and his history was learned. He was once an expert telegraph operator, but the latter years of his life were spent in disgrace and debauchery, and he attributed his downfall to a remarkable adventure which turned the whole course of his life. He had not been in Tonawanda for ten years before, but probably wandered here to seek assistance from a former associate in the employ of the Western Union Telegraph Company, from whom the following story was obtained :

One evening in October, 1868, Gen. Anson Stager, who was then general superintendent of the Western Union's Western Division, was entertaining a party of friends at his elegant home in Chicago. Just before midnight a servant informed the host that a stranger was at the door demanding to see him at once, but refusing to give his name or business. When the General reached the hall he found a wild-looking individual, dusty, dirty and ragged, who requested a private interview. Upon close scrutiny the host discovered the features of a telegraph operator who had served under him in the army during the rebellion.

"Van Buren?" was his startled exclamation.

"Yes," replied the visitor, "that is my name and you can judge of the importance of my errand by my looks and the haste I have made to get to you." The superintendent hurried Van Buren into his library and the operator laid before his chief the details of the remarkable adventure here narrated.

Van Buren had been for two years past chief operator of the Western Union office at Cheyenne, where he had formed the acquaintance of a good-looking, well-dressed man about town, named Godfrey Whitman. After displaying great interest in the subjects of electricity and telegraphy, Whitman one day suggested to the operator the feasibility of making a good round sum by disconnecting a wire between two repeating stations, inserting an instrument and telegraphing a bogus news message which would influence the stock market. Van Buren refused to listen to the scheme and very soon afterwards Whitman disappeared from the place. A few weeks later the operator was ordered to take charge of the San Francisco office, and he started by the overland mail coach across the plains. When about one hundred miles out from Cheyenne the coach was stopped at night by five mounted men, who claimed to be United States soldiers, and arrested Van Buren as a deserter. He was taken from the stage a prisoner, placed upon a horse, and the party rode rapidly eastward, finally dismounting at a log cabin not far from the stage road. When a fire was lighted Van Buren discovered in the leader of the gang his Cheyenne friend, Whitman, who frankly told him what they intended to do and that a refusal meant death.

Whitman's scheme was, as outlined at Cheyenne, to tap the telegraph line, cutting off San Francisco, and to send to New York a dispatch, the copy of which he showed Van Buren. The latter demurred at first, saying he had not the necessary instruments, but Whitman produced a key and relay and a coil of small insulated copper wire and Van Buren was forced to obey orders. One of the men buckled on a pair of climbers such as telegraph linemen use, and a short walk brought the party to the line of poles and wire that stretched across the continent from ocean to ocean.

The climber held his lantern out over the wire that stretched westward, and from his perch on the pole cut it in two with one snip of his shears. It swung to the ground, and San Francisco was cut off entirely from communication

with the East.

Then he tied the copper wire to the eastern line, threw both ends to the ground, and his work was done. Van Buren attached the ends of the copper wire to his relay, shoved one end a foot into the earth, and his circuit to Chicago was complete.

The bogus dispatch was about one hundred words in length, addressed to J. W. Simonton, the New York agent of the Associated Press, and signed W. H. Smith, agent, at San Francisco. It recounted briefly the loss by fire of the steamship New Grenada, of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company's line, having on board 180 passengers and over \$2,000,000 in bars of gold, when only thirty hours out from port, en route to Panama. Further particulars were promised in the morning.

Van Buren sent the message and received "O. K." from Chicago. Whitman explained that they were acting in connection with a syndicate of Wall street brokers who had "sold short" 20,000 shares of Pacific Mail stock at 91. The stock at the news of the disaster would drop twenty-five points at least, and before any connection could reach New York the brokers would cover their "short" interests and buy 20,000 shares more for the rise, which would surely follow the discovery of the canard. Whitman promised the operator \$50,000 and said that the profits for the whole syndicate would be \$1,000,000. Van Buren remained with the gang closely watched for two days and then they all separated to rendezvous at St. Catharines, Ont., in a month. The operator made his way over the plains back to the stage route, and as rapidly as possible, by begging and borrowing, reached Chicago ragged, hungry and penniless.

Gen. Stager listened to the recital with great interest and informed the operator that the bogus dispatch was received and believed in Chicago, but that a violent storm along the lakes delayed its transmission to New York, until after the western line had been repaired and news had been received which exposed the fraud. A quiet investigation had been going on ever since, both at the West and in New York, to ascertain how and where the despatch originated, but with no result until now.

After a day or two Van Buren was ordered to Buffalo, and a plan formed to reach Whitman and obtain from him, if possible, the names of his principals in New York. Van wrote to him at St. Catharines, and Whitman wired back to come over and see him. He went there several times, Whitman constantly promising and as constantly breaking his word to expose the New Yorkers. Nothing would induce him to cross the line into the United States, and at last he disappeared entirely.

## GIRL TELEGRAPHERS IN TEXAS.

Some days ago a reporter of the *Galveston News* had occasion to use a telegraph line in sending a report to the paper. It was long after midnight, and the nearest Western Union wire was a good mile and a half from the town in which he was located. The telegraph office was found to be in a railroad block station, situated in one of the loneliest and bleakest parts of the country through which the road passed. No dwelling houses were within calling distance, and the entire surroundings were of the most uninviting and forbidding kind. The office itself was but a small frame building, utterly devoid of any means of defence from intruders, and the country round about was infested with tramps.

The reporter knocked at the door, and receiving no answer, knocked again with the same result. Finally, after a third summons, a window was opened, and a feminine voice timidly inquired, "Who's there?"

The surprise of the newspaper man can be better imagined than described. The idea of a woman being in charge of an office in such a dismal place seemed almost preposterous. He, however, explained his mission, and after a little delay



was admitted by a delicate girl, who appeared to be hardly older than 18.

The little room was as neat and clean as a new pin. The floor was as white as a scrubbing brush could make it. On the walls were tastefully pinned a number of pretty advertising cards. A glass on a table near by contained a bunch of flowers, and a comfortable, homelike air pervaded the whole room, so entirely different from the average country railroad station with its foul odors of bad tobacco and oil. When the last word of the message was out the reporter questioned the young lady upon her work.

"Yes," she said, "this company has lady operators at night in all their offices as far east as the mountains. My office is not as lonely as some of the places up in the mountains, where the girls do not have an opportunity to talk to anybody from the time they leave the train at 6 o'clock in the evening until they return the next morning. It is an awful place even here, sometimes. Not a train will pass for hours at a time in the morning, and we must walk the floor to keep awake. At first I thought I would never be able to stand it, but it is growing easier now. At the beginning I was afraid of every sound. We form odd friends at such times. The best I have are the mice, who come out of their holes and eat the crumbs I leave on the floor for them. They are good company when there is nothing better."

"I should think that the company would give the lady operators day offices," he said.

"Well, it does not. They give the easy positions to the men. The only reason I can give for that, since you ask for it, is that young ladies are more careful, and do not go to sleep like the lazy men do, and pile up a wreck in front of the office.

"Are you not afraid of tramps?"

"Good gracious! yes. They are the bane of our existence. We are prepared for them, though!" said she, at the same time glancing at a loaded revolver, which had until then lain unnoticed within reach of her hand. "I had to use it once or twice. I did not want to shoot the man, and only fired to scare him."

"Have you had any odd experience while at this office?"

"There was one," she answered, "I will never forget. It was one of the coldest nights of last winter. Rain had fallen the night before, and toward evening, it had grown colder. After midnight the thermometer was down below zero, and a high wind was raging. About 2 o'clock in the morning somebody rapped at the door. I did not notice it at first, as I knew it was only a tramp. One had been loitering around all day and had insulted me the night before, and I thought it was the same one come back again. He kicked the door again, and I raised a window and asked him what he wanted. He said he wanted to come in, and if he did not get in he would break in the door. Then he began to swear at me. I told him to go away, and that I would not admit him. That made him more angry.

"He beat and kicked the door until I thought he would break it down. Then he tried all the windows, and finally came back to the door again. No train had passed for an hour before. None had left the city, and the nearest telegraph office was two miles away. I pulled out the drawer to get my revolver. It was gone! Then I remembered having left it at home that night to have it repaired. The man was knocking away at the door, and every moment I thought would be my last. I knelt down and prayed for assistance. The man at the door had grown quieter, and commenced to beg me to let him come in. 'Great God! lady,' he said to me, 'I am freezing, and if you do not let me in you will find me dead here in the morning.'

"I opened the window again and begged him to leave, but he only continued to plead for admittance. His voice had grown weaker, and sounded so pitiful that I finally went down stairs to the door. I wanted to let him in, yet I was afraid.

"At last I unlocked the door and turned the knob. The door of itself flew back on its hinges, and there fell in upon me one of the dirtiest, meanest, and worst looking tramps that I had ever seen. His clothes were covered with mud, and his face looked terribly fierce. I screamed, and turned to run away to escape him, when he caught hold of both my hands and fell on his knees before me, and then and there poured forth one of the most beautiful prayers I have ever heard. It was so pathetic and full of thankfulness at times.

"Tears were streaming down his cheeks, and he kissed my hands repeatedly, saying I had saved his life. I repented and told him to come up stairs to the stove, but half way up the stairs he knelt and prayed again. He lay down by the fire for a while, and after he had become warmed, he told me the story of his life—how he had become a drunkard and deserted his home. He said he had not eaten anything for two days, so I gave him my lunch. I kept him here for a couple of hours and then sent him west on a freight. Every time I think of that man and that night I feel better, although everybody said I was foolish to let him in when I told the story at home."

#### WOES OF A TELEGRAPHER.

TROUBLE DURING A THUNDERSTORM—MESSAGES NOT EASILY DECIPHERED.

"And you imagine we fellows have a slick time of it, eh?" said an operator at the Western Union Telegraph office. "Well, you are away off. An operator's life, especially this sort of weather, isn't altogether a pleasant one when he has got to use a fan with one hand and a pen with the other."

"How many words do operators usually write a minute?"

"An expert operator has to write on an average from thirty to forty-five words, and sometimes more, according to the ability of the transmitter at the other end of the wire. If the sender is a first-class man he can make it very uncomfortable for the receiving operator by sending so fast that he won't have time to dip his pen in the ink bottle, not if it were buttoned to his bosom. Then in a thunder storm the lightning interferes a good deal with the operator's transmitting. The receiving operator, if his ability allows it, can readily get along by guessing, but he has to be very careful, or any mistake that he may make will cause his salary to be somewhat diminished at the end of the month on account of having to pay the cost of the message, or a few hundred dollars more. No, sir, an operator's life is not one of pleasure, as is the general impression. It's one of continual worry, and is strictly business."

"How do operators usually learn the business?"

"A first-class operator frequently start out as 'messenger,' and through his own perseverance gradually learns the 'ropes,' and, if he is ambitious enough, he finally becomes an operator. He may not then be fully up to the standard. He's got to become accustomed to different styles of messages, such as 'social business' and 'cipher.' Any first-class operator can sit down and write cipher after cipher, with the experience he has had with this economic and costly style of telegraphing. For instance, in an every-day style like this: 'How melons ripe enough to pluck?' or 'Cotton's easier, market steadier, cotton coming in lively,' is all easy enough, but when the messages get this way: 'Somnambulistich echu, buy hundred bales middling,' and it is mixed at the other end to read, 'Summon an ambulance, try hounded pills, middling, etc,' or 'send me firfiz tollar, I vas ousgaspeilt,' it's not quite so easy. The operator looks at such a message, turns it different ways, and either carries it back for 'reconstruction,' or lets it go as written. Then again, 'I wasn't yez coom right doon on the wire' no doubt means, wants him to reply by wire. When he gets such a message the operator is in another 'pickle' what to do.

"In 'cipher' and 'cables' though, such risks cannot be taken, as it might involve thousands of dollars, and as the operator's finances are nominal, he cannot take the risk.

"There are also stock quotations that are important, of-



times more so than the cipher messages. A quotation comes along. The merchant does not intend to invest until he is certain that the quotation has been correctly received. An operator or the telegraph company cannot always be held responsible for misspelled or badly written messages."

"How should a message be written to insure prompt dispatch and quick delivery?"

"It should first be plainly written, every word and figure spelled out. Paper is plentiful and can be generously utilized for this important purpose."—New York *Graphic*.

#### BULLS.

Telegraphers must not imagine for a moment that they have a "monopoly" or "trust" on "bulls." People outside of the hearing of the clickety click of a telegraph sounder have contributed some horrible specimens to the world's collection, the following of which from *Epoch* are but a fair sample :

A "bull" may be said to be a gross contradiction or blunder in speech. It was derived from one Obediah Bull, a lawyer in the time of Henry VIII, who was celebrated, rather than famous, from the blunders which fell from his lips when he pleaded before the judges.

A witty Irishman, upon being asked for the definition of a bull, said : "If you see two cows lying down alone in the meadow, the one standing up is invariably a bull."

Miss Edgeworth, in her essay on "Irish Bulls" gives the following : "When I first saw you I thought it was you and now I see it is your brother." "I met you this morning and you did not come ; I'll meet you to-morrow morning whether you come or not." "Oh ! if I had stayed in that climate until now I'd have been dead two years."

During the Irish rebellion an Irish paper published this item : "A man named McCarthy was run over by a passenger train and killed on Wednesday. He was injured in a similar way two years ago."

In 1784 the Irish House of Commons issued an order to this effect ; any member unable to write may get another member to frank his letter for him, but only on condition that he certifies with his own hand-writing his inability, on the back of it."

A well-known epitaph commences as follows :

"Read, if thou canst read." This is somewhat akin to the hand-board which read : "The ford is dangerous when this board is covered by the water."

Mixed metaphors can be classed among the blunders. Justice Minister Hye, in 1848, in a speech to the Vienna students, impressively declared : "The chariot of the revolution is rolling along, and gashing its teeth as it rolls." A pan-Germanist Mayor, of a Rhineland city, said, in an address to the Emperor : "No Austria, no Prussia, only one Germany ; such were the words the mouth of your Imperial Majesty has always had in his eye." Count Frankenberg pointed out to his countrymen the necessity of "seizing the stream of time by the forelock."

When the Russians captured the Isle of Lemnos, the newspapers announced that part of the squadron remained at Candy (Canada) while the rest of it was at the Island of Lemons. At the Lord Mayor's feast, in London, it was stated that the aldermen "died on turtle," when it was obviously meant that they simply dined on it. In the report of a clergyman's sermon, "made atonement for the sins of the people" appeared as "made ointment for the skins of the people." Prof. Phelps wrote, in the manuscript of his "Still Hour," "A dead calm at sea, but in the book it reads "A dead clam at sea." A poet once wrote "He kissed her under the silent stars," and was perfectly horrified to discover that the compositor had made "He kicked her under the cellar stairs" out of it.

During Theodore Hook's career as a London editor, he made a large collection of blunders that had come under his notice. Among them were the following ludicrous ones : A wager to "trot a mile" on Epsom Race-Course was printed

"trot a mule." A noted gourmand, appointed Secretary of State, was converted into "Secretary of Taste." One of Shakespeare's characters says : "I will carve myself a fortune with my sword," which Voltaire translated into "with my sword I will make a fortune carving meat."

A compositor on *The Electro Mechanic*, a new electrical paper, placed on the list of books owned by the Gramme Society, Prescott's "Hell's Speaking Telephone." Professor Bell will be surprised at this, no doubt.

#### NO MORE TELEGRAPH SCHOOLS.

THEY ARE ALL CLOSED—HINTS FOR WOULD BE OPERATORS.

All the telegraph schools in the city of New York, where young men and women paid to learn telegraphy, only to find out eventually that they had learned nothing, are now closed. The Mayor's unrelenting attack on the big concern in 14th street which made pretensions to be a branch of the Western Union Telegraph Company, frightened the smaller ones, and an advertisement of a telegraph school in this city can no longer be found in the newspapers.

Speaking of this fact one day to a *News* reporter, a Western Union official said :

"It is strange that young men should have been beguiled in wasting their time and money in such schools. The best way for a man who has had no experience in any branch of the business, and desires to learn telegraphy is to take the position of a clerk in a Western Union office. The pay to begin with is \$25 a month and is gradually increased to \$35. There is room almost every day in the week for a bright young man desirous of learning telegraphy to get a clerkship in a Western Union office. The supply might be said always to be less than the demand. This seems strange, but it is nevertheless a fact.

"Taking employment as a clerk in a Western Union office a young man can acquire a practical knowledge of telegraphy, as well as all the details of the business. In a telegraph school he learns practically nothing and loses time and money. Giving his time as clerk in an office of the company he is continually learning something, and, if he is smart, becomes a full-fledged operator in a remarkably short time.

"The other advantage of this method of learning telegraphy is that it not only costs nothing, but you are paid while learning. After a clerk makes himself proficient as an operator, it practically rests with himself as to what his future salary shall be."

#### "BIF" COOK GETTING WELL.

The telegraphers of this city, and in fact of every other city in the country, will be glad to learn that Willis J. Cook, who has been seriously ill at the Roosevelt Hospital for five weeks, is now in a fair way to recover. Mr. Cook, familiarly known as "Bif," is one of the best known operators in the United States, and his fame as an expert extends to every point reached by an American telegraph wire. A dozen years ago he was one of the marvels of the craft, being known as one of the fastest of senders and a receiver who could not be "rushed." He has been employed in almost every large office on the lines of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

In 1880, he was one of the "crack operators" of *The Associated Press*, in Washington. The intensely hard work on the New York and Washington circuit, a wire that was kept so busy that the men used to say it was always "red hot," caused Mr. Cook to "lose his grip." This is an affliction suffered by many rapid operators, and is similar to writers' cramp. Mr. Cook retired from the business for a year, and having partially recovered his "grip," accepted an offer of a good position in Aspinwall, Panama. He remained there until five weeks ago, when he was sent to this city suffering from malarial poisoning. He is now doing nicely, it is said, and in a short time will be well enough to be removed to the home of his family in Sandusky, Ohio.



THE TELEGRAPHERS' YELLOW FEVER FUND.

Edward Curry, Treasurer, New York.....\$ 2 00  
 John F. Tucker and associates, Newburgh, N. Y.... 118 20  
 Previously acknowledged..... 100 00

Total \$220 20

The entire amount has been turned over to the *World* fund for the operators, and has been duly acknowledged in that journal. The following correspondence speaks for itself:

NEW YORK, October 4th, 1888.

Editor, ELECTRIC AGE:—Please add my mite, the enclosed two dollars, to the Telegraphers Yellow Fever Fund. The Florida boys are proving themselves a credit to their calling.

Yours truly,

EDWARD CURRY.

NEWBURGH, N. Y., October 3rd, 1888.

J. B. TALTAVAL, EDITOR & C:

Dear Sir—Enclosed please find draft to be placed to the credit of the Telegraphers' Fund, for suffering telegraphers at Jacksonville, Fla. It is the proceeds of a game of base ball played between nines, made up by the telegraph operators of the *Journal* and the *Register* offices in this city, under the direction of Mr. Harry R. Swivel, of the Associated Press, and Mr. Frank R. Kasper, of The United Press, aided as you may judge by the public generally. Hoping that this money freely contributed may aid many of the manipulators of the key in the distressed city, we are,

Very truly,

JOHN F. TUCKER, of *Register*, }  
 A. E. LAYMAN, of *Journal*. } Treasurers.

The following acknowledgment was forwarded:

NEW YORK, October 6th, 1888.

J. F. TUCKER, Esq., and associates, Newburgh, N. Y.:

Dear Sirs—Your most excellent endeavors in behalf of the noble telegraphers who have so cheerfully and manfully remained at their post of duty in Jacksonville during the yellow fever scourge, need no praise from me. The results speak more plainly than could any words of mine.

I think I express the sentiments of all the Jacksonville telegraphers when I heartily thank, yourself, A. E. Layman of the *Journal*, Harry R. Swivel of the Associated and Frank R. Kasper, of The United Press, for your substantial remittance.

A further acknowledgment of the \$118.20 will be made in the *ELECTRIC AGE*, of October 16th and in the *New York World* of an earlier date. The latter is the custodian of the general fund for the telegraphers.

Yours very sincerely,

J. B. TALTAVAL.

THE YELLOW FEVER EPIDEMIC.

There seems to be an impression in some quarters that there is somewhere a small balance left over from the fund raised by the telegraphers in 1878, during the yellow fever scourge of that year.

R. H. Rochester, the treasurer of the Western Union Company, had charge of the fund, and a final statement was published in the *Journal of the Telegraph*, of June 20th, 1882, and December 20th, 1884. The committee was organized in 1878, and the total amount of money collected, according to the statement, was \$15,298.58, and receipts for the same were duly acknowledged. The total amount distributed for physicians, nurses and care of the sick was \$14,706.24, which left a balance in the hands of the committee in June, 1882, of \$592.34. Between that date and November, 1884, this balance was all distributed to the widows and orphans of deceased telegraphers according as they most needed it. This closed up the fund entirely.

On September 28th, there was no operator at Ferrandina, and the citizens would not allow Superintendent Dillon to send one there from Jacksonville.

George H. Hollenbeck, from Memphis, died on September 29th. This is the third member of the force who has died from yellow fever.

Charles L. Deforest, the new arrival from Detroit, Mich., was taken with the fever on October 2d, and died October 7th. The fourth death.

James P. Rivers, night chief, has acknowledged receipt of \$400 from the *World* which has been placed on deposit subject to the order of the operators. Mr. Rivers is treasurer of the telegraph operators' fund at Jacksonville.

Two boxes of grapes from Sallie V. Simpson, of Philadelphia, reached the Jacksonville operators in good shape and were much relished by the tired out telegraphers.

The force at 195 Broadway, New York, contributed \$83.25 on October 3rd.

The six messengers on duty at Jacksonville worthy of mention are C. S. Greenwood, C. H. Dinger, James Campbell, D. Mahoney, F. Denriceces and W. D. Davis. They have been on duty throughout the epidemic.

General Superintendent Merrihew says the company is taking the best of care of its sick and providing burial for its dead. The salaries of those sick are continued and all the expenses attending the sickness are paid by the company. If a member of the family of any of the employes is taken with the fever, the company pays the sick expenses, and also has paid the funeral expenses. The total dead so far are: Operators Ford, De Forest, Hollenbeck, Clerk Robinson; Mrs. Crowley, the wife of the manager and Mrs. Wallace, the wife of the chief operator.

Operators Frank R. Kasper and Harry R. Swivel, of Newburgh, N. Y., have the honor of raising the largest fund for the telegraphers so far. Their enterprise resulted in swelling the fund to the extent of \$118.20.

The employes of the Postal Telegraph and Cable Company, of 187 Broadway, through the efforts of James J. Burke and Miss M. L. Wenk, of the day force, and Manager Shirley, Mr. Mudgett and Mr. B. J. Walsh, of the night force, have raised a fund for the Jacksonville operators almost equal to that of the Western Union fund of New York. The Postal force is about one-fifth as large as the Western Union, and the operators deserve much credit for their hearty response to the appeal for aid, the amount being \$81. Considering that the Postal Company had no telegraph connection with Jacksonville, this contribution, coming from the Western Union's only rival, is all the more praiseworthy. The list was headed by General Superintendent J. H. Emerick.

Miss Belle Thompson, operator at Bovina Centre, N. Y., sent \$22.20 to the fund.

The operators on the Ontario and Western road have subscribed \$130 to the Telegraphers' Yellow Fever Fund.

The volunteer telegrapher from Detroit, Charles L. De Forest, died at the hospital despite the best of care.

Manager Crowley was taken sick on Oct. 5, and Operator Turner, of Augusta, Ga., was taken with a second relapse the day following.

Only nine operators are now on duty, and there is no hope of frost for one month.

Messrs. Sweeney, Birkner and Armstrong have returned to work.

General Superintendent Merrihew and District Superintendent Dillon have steadfastly refused to hire any of the volunteers who are daily offering their services. Both gentlemen realize that to order acclimated or unacclimated operators to Jacksonville is certain death. Operator Deforest, of Detroit, threw his life away by journeying to the plague stricken city.

Superintendent Gill, of Philadelphia, has remitted \$125 for the Jacksonville telegraphers, which was collected in the Quaker city. Mr. Gill recognizes the desirability of rewarding heroism in a substantial manner.

The city council of Jacksonville and the auxiliary committee are loud in their praise of the telegraph force.



## WOMEN AS TELEGRAPH OPERATORS.

THEY ARE BRIGHT INTELLIGENT, AND A GOOD MANY OF THEM ARE AS EXPERT AS MEN.

There isn't a busier spot in all New York than the operating room of the Western Union Telegraph Company. I happened in there a few days ago to inquire about a press message that had gone astray. Manager Dealy "called up" a distant city to make the inquiry for me, and while waiting for the reply we fell to talking of the 700 operators in the big room. One third were women. There wasn't a rush of business, and so the operators had little to do. Some of the women were handsome. All were tastily dressed. The majority looked rosy and healthy. They all wore a jaunty air, as well as fashionably cut gowns. Some were busy sending or receiving messages. Those who hadn't any messages to send were reading books or papers. Some were engaged in fancy work or knitting. It was a great big happy family, and an occasional ring of a woman's musical voice was heard above the Niagara of clicks.

"Is the telegraph business a good one for women to engage in?" I asked.

"Yes," was Mr. Dealy's reply. "A woman who is smart and quick and wants to earn her own living can do so very comfortably if she is a good operator."

"Does the supply equal the demand?"

"Yes, a dozen times over, but good smart women are always wanted. We receive a great many applications from all parts of the country, from women who want work. As soon as a vacancy occurs we take the first application on file and give whoever happens to be that lucky heroine, the first chance. We have applications on file now received from women full one year and a half ago."

"What time is necessary to prepare a young woman for a telegraph operator?"

"That depends. A naturally smart woman will learn much faster than a woman who isn't quick and ambitious. Much depends upon the previous education. Women well versed in a variety of subjects, who can read difficult manuscript, who can spell correctly, in a word, who are smart, can become good operators in one to three years. Some are quite as expert as their brothers of the key. How are women paid? Beginners or office messengers are paid \$15 a month. When they can take duty at a light wire, their pay is increased to \$25 per month. Then as they improve they are still further advanced until they get \$50, \$60 or more per month, according to experience and ability. Women operators work nine hours a day, usually from 8 A. M. to 5.30 P. M., with a half hour at mid-day for lunch. They are shown no more favors than the men. They are required to keep their wires clear of messages. When clear, they may either read or sew, paint, do fancy work or whatever else they choose. Yes, we have a good deal of talent here. Any number of our operators earn money after their regular labor is finished. Some write for the newspapers. Others sing in church choirs. A few give lessons in music, and one teaches a dancing class in the evening. One of our best operators is Mrs. W. E. Randolph. She is a widow and sings in Plymouth Church choir. She is also a very clever verse writer, and a poem she wrote at the time of Henry Ward Beecher's death attracted a good deal of attention. She has been in the telegraph service several years.

"My long experience has taught me that in many respects women operators are better workers than men, but altogether not so useful. They are steady, give no trouble, are absent less frequently than men, and seem to feel a keener responsibility. Quite a number of women operators have been with us for ten years. Their work gives them a deep insight into human nature. They learn to carry themselves with dignity. They cast aside all frivolous ideas. They make good wives and their work does not unfit them for feminine duties. Scandal? No sir. Never heard of any, here. Their presence has a soothing effect upon men, and

many a woman has listened to cupid's honeyed words as she sat at her key, and has found a loving, honest husband in a near-by telegraph operator. Telegraphy isn't as prosaic work as some people imagine. There is a heap of romance about it. What a book some of the old operators could write!"

The desirability of situations in telegraphy necessitates a word of caution. Young women intending to prepare to earn their living in the way indicated, cannot be too careful respecting "institutions," which profess a great deal, but practically fleece their victims and leave them unqualified. My advice is—keep away from them.

DAVID WECHSLER.

THE BROOKLYN TELEGRAPHERS BALL.—The Brooklyn Telegraphers gave their fourth annual ball on Tuesday evening, October 2d, and it proved to be a repetition of the former enjoyable affairs. The committee of arrangements consisting of Messrs J. A. Griswold and John H. McCormick, is entitled to considerable credit for the completeness and thoroughness of all the details. The floor director was Wm. C. Crolius; floor committee, R. C. McDonald, Frank Kihm, W. D. Henry, M. J. Gleason and Wm. Murray; reception committee; A. G. Chisholm, S. E. Levis, J. H. Spearman, J. E. Everett and Frank Wood. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. J. Costelloe, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Everett, Mr. and Mrs. Dr. G. R. Cooper, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. C. Crolius, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hallett, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Thos. S. Hunter, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Eneas, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Chisholm, Mrs. Benson, Mrs. B. C. Chase, Mrs. C. E. Jahn, Mrs. Walter Drew, Miss Jessie Drew, Miss Emily Scott, Miss Emma Benedict, Miss L. Rourke, Miss Maggie Wynne, Miss Jessie Hunter, Miss Addie White, Miss Minnie Haven, Miss Lizzie Wallace, Miss A. Boken, Miss Grace Howard, Miss Louise Tress, Miss Georgia Teake, Miss Ella Jackson, Miss Robina and Minnie Anderson, Miss Josie Costelloe, Miss Sarah Reemer, Miss Josephene Eneas, Miss Grace Alling, Messrs. R. C. McDonald, W. D. Henry, Wm. Murray, Emery Hall, S. E. Levis, Frank Oberrender, J. J. Daly, Frank Kihm, R. L. Haggerty, C. S. Eaves, J. H. Spearman, W. W. Knapp, J. Doyle, J. B. Davis, C. E. Jahn, George Soder, J. D. Whelan, J. R. Edwards, Charles H. Ox, Wm. Rouch, J. D. Levien, Frank E. Clark, Arthur T. Stallman, J. Brown, C. E. Curtis, Frank Harrison, M. D. Greene, M. J. Gleason, Wm. Muir, Joseph Hurd, C. E. Billings, C. H. Rivers, Jr.

GOLD AND STOCK LIFE INSURANCE CO.—The following explains itself:

Your Auditing Committee have examined and found correct the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer for quarter ending September 29th, 1888, and respectfully submit the following report:

June 30th, 1888, balance on hand.....	\$1,454 76	
Receipts:		
For fees.....	\$18 00	
For dues.....	709 50	
Interest.....	16 91	744 41
Total.....		\$2,199 17
Disbursements:		
Claims paid.....	\$450 00	
Miscellaneous.....	25 17	\$475 17
Balance on hand and on deposit.....		1,724 00
		\$2,199 17

F. W. BALDWIN,  
W. H. JACKSON,  
J. M. MOFFATT.

Auditing Committee.

THE TELEGRAPH IN CHINA.—It is announced that the telegraph convention between the Chinese Government and the companies owning cables in Chinese waters has been signed. The Chinese Government reserves to itself the right of cancelling the agreement in case the arrangement should be found to prejudicially affect the Chinese telegraph system.



## PRAISE FOR THE TELEGRAPHERS.

It is not the battle field alone that develops heroism. The man who in the midst of danger remains at his post and discharges his duty with the knowledge that superior numbers may soon overpower and rob him of life, or who in the midst of a terrible epidemic stands by his work fully aware that he may be stricken down at any time, he is as great a hero. The yellow fever epidemic at Jacksonville has developed more than one type of this high moral heroism. The telegraph operators who by day and by night send the reports to the various papers throughout the nation of the progress of the scourge, who ever stop to think of them and the dangers with which they are menaced? More than one has succumbed. Nearly all have lost one or more of their loved ones; yet they stand at their post. If it were not for their bravery, what would the world know about the dying victims of the yellow fever in the south? Their work shows for itself every day to every reader of the daily papers. When they read the account of suffering, death and anguish they should give a thought to the brave operators who, even in the midst of impending death, never for a moment think of deserting their work. Of such stuff the world's greatest heroes are made.—*Railway Service Gazette*.

The generous and unexpected action of the New York *World* in starting a subscription for the telegraphers at Jacksonville, Fla., has made all of them feel greatly pleased. They have remained nobly at their posts, with no expectation or hope of pecuniary reward, and while of course the money will be very acceptable to them, yet the main gratification comes from the knowledge that somebody has noted their self-sacrifice and given them due credit therefor. They are all young men, several of them with small families. Their action in remaining at work while one after another of their comrades was taken from their side, speaks volumes for their brave attention to duty.—*Electrical World*.

The New York *World* is getting up a fund for the telegraph operators who have remained at their posts in the plague-stricken cities. No one is more deserving of such a tribute or recognition than these faithful employes. The engineer, who, with death ahead on the rail, refuses to leave his cab, the soldier who looks into the cannon's mouth as it belches forth its deadly missiles, are no braver than those heroes of the electrical key who bravely stick to their posts in the face of danger and death.—*Louisville Post*.

The generous and unexpected action of the New York *World* in starting a subscription for the telegraph operators in Jacksonville, is a timely and magnanimous recognition of their fidelity and self-sacrifice in remaining at their posts in the face of the greatest danger. Their action in remaining at work while one after another of their comrades was taken from their side, speaks volumes for their brave attention to duty.—*Journal of United Labor*.

Among the faithful men who have remained at their posts during the yellow fever epidemic at Jacksonville, the telegraph operators should not be forgotten. They have been obliged to work laboriously under the most trying circumstances. The importance of their work can hardly be over-estimated, and their services deserve hearty recognition.—*Western Electrician*.

The noble little band of telegraphers who have remained at their post in the yellow fever stricken city of Jacksonville, Fla., is deserving of all praise. They are made of the stuff that heroes are, and deserve substantial recognition, for without them the world would have been left in ignorance of the terrible situation in the stricken city.—*Electrical Review*.

A plug factory which was recently closed in Brooklyn, on account of the onslaughts of the press, sent forth some of the most curious specimens of literature we have ever known

type to produce. One of the circulars contained the following burst of virtuous indignation:

"Why are most instructors (!) so only in name? Is it not rank fraud to take money from applicants before giving them a chance to investigate and see that they have to teach each other, and can never learn thusly? We should smile. Is it not an awful sin, worse even than drinking gin, to guarantee situations when they know telegraph managers won't even test their students? Seems so."

Here is another extract:—

"Why did Miss May Duffy, of No. 327 Warren street, Brooklyn, who paid the Union Telegraph School, at No. 442 Fulton street, Brooklyn, \$50 tuition and \$10 for a situation, come to us for the position she obtained in the General Postal Office?"

The printed cards, which announce Watson, the professor, as "the most expert instructor in America," contain a number of reckless wagers for large amounts of money, giving any one with sporting blood an opportunity to win a good many thousand dollars. Here is a specimen:

"\$1,000 if there can be found one operator excelling or ten equalling A. A. Watson as an absolutely perfect telegraph transmitter and therefore perfect instructor in America or the world."

## TELEGRAPH PATENTS GRANTED.

389,678. Fire Alarm System. Thomas, G. Turner, New York, N. Y.

The first claim reads: "1. A fire alarm system composed of an electric circuit, in which is located an electric generator, an electric signaling device, a signal box or boxes, and a fire extinguishing apparatus suspended from the mechanism of the signal box, whereby the weight of the apparatus places the mechanism of the signal box in position for automatic action upon its removal."

389,839. Telegraphic Call for Messengers, etc. Benjamin Dubinski, St. Louis, Mo.

This is an electro magnetic device by which, by the mere turning of a crank, a certain number is indicated by a relay magnet at a distance—say from a private office to a messenger office—and by turning a crank at the messenger office, acknowledgment of reception of the call is made to the private office and a bell sounded indicating that such acknowledgement has been sent.

## BOOKS ON TELEGRAPHY.

- ABERNETHY. An Outline of Commercial and Railway Telegraphy, in Theory and Practice. Arranged in questions and answers, \$ 2.00
- CULLEY. Hand-Book of Practical Telegraphy. New Edition, 6.00
- LOCKWOOD. Electricity, Magnetism, and Electric Telegraphy. A Practical Guide and Hand-Book of General Information for Electrical Students, Operators and Inspectors. 2.50
- LORING. A Hand-Book of the Electro-Magnetic Telegraph. Board, 50c. Cloth, 75c Morocco, 1.00
- MAVER & DAVIS. Quadruplex. With chapters on the Dynamo-Electric Machine in Relation to the Quadruplex. Telegraph Repeaters, and the Wheatstone Automatic Telegraph. By Wm. Maver, Jr. 1.50
- POPE. The Modern Practice of the Electric Telegraph. Ninth Edition. Revised and Enlarged, 1.50
- PRESCOTT. Electricity and the Electric Telegraph, 2 vols., 5.00
- SMITH. Manual of Telegraphy. Designed for beginners. .30
- Remit by express or money order.  
Address J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey street, New York.



BALTIMORE, MD., NOTES.—Notably among the numerous changes since our last, is the promotion of Mr. L. D. Wilbourn, traffic chief, to fill the vacancy of wire chief, created by the resignation of Mr. C. P. Adams, formerly chief operator of the B. and O. Telegraph Co., who has gone back to his first love, that of chief operator of the B. & O. railroad lines. The railroad business is handled in the once busy B. & O. commercial office. There still stands twenty-five quartette tables with many instruments on them, and scattered around the room we find with Mr. Adams, the following gentlemen: F. H. French, P. J. McCormick, J. F. McLaughlin, J. R. Wholley, A. Bowersock, Jr., who has just returned from Deer Park. S. H. Koontz and J. R. Klinefelter, who has charge at nights. In the Western Union office, Mr. Bloxham is manager, with Chief Operator Grape and Wire Chiefs Adams and Wilbourn. Mr. Hull, who has been in the telegraphic service, more years than your correspondent is old, is once more seen in his old position of traffic chief. The following list comprise the present day force: Charles Clagett and C. M. Garey, New York; E. H. Ward and Wm. E. Lenz, Philadelphia; G. D. Ward and M. A. McCord, Washington; Austin Bowersock, Richmond; J. C. Mattoon and H. H. Mobley, Cincinnati; Herbert Green, cable wire; Geo. K. Bobb, Pittsburgh; R. G. Simmonds, Chicago; R. P. Brooks, Sr., Chinese; E. S. Anderson, Hagerstown and Ways; Miss Edna Spence, Norfolk. In the city department we find Miss Florence McCoy, Miss Adele Feast, Messrs. W. W. Crudden, Samuel Conner and Charles Kirk. The skirmishers are H. P. Bilson, William Taylor, Frank W. Guthridge, Geo. R. Walter, Jr., Al. Forester, Arthur Thweatt, Geo. Boyer, J. R. Topp, F. T. J. McCaghey, Alfred Gentry, Ivan Beck, U. S. McCauley, W. D. McGowan, Ferd Miller and J. M. Creamer. Geo. B. Kreh relieves Mr. Bobb at 10 A. M., who in company with Messrs. Wilbourn and Boyer, proceed to the Chamber of Commerce, where they toil during the busy hours. The C. N. D. is composed of Misses Mary and Katie Wyant, Messrs. W. A. Wyson, W. Johnson, Wm. Brooks and Andy Turner. Inspectors, E. H. Muller and Felix Mallon; the latter, we are sorry to state is now very ill at his home. Miss Emma Shields and Frank Gainer do the electrical work of the operating room. The night force: Mr. F. W. Ganger, night manager, assistant, Mr. Ed Little, formerly B. & O., night manager; P. G. Hess, C. C. Wolfe, J. H. Church, Charles Masterman, W. A. Porterfield, W. W. Thweatt, W. B. Nelson, Geo. Dunning, Geo. Clark, J. L. Nicolai, T. Farley and Harry Smith. Mr. J. Guthridge all night chief; Geo. Plummer, Lawrence Parker and J. E. Zell are the extra men. Our young friend Harry G. Montgomery, of the Chamber of Commerce, has accepted a position in Toledo. He has the best wishes of the whole fraternity for his future success. On the 15th of August at 3 P. M., an operator in the W. U. main office, was presented with a fine girl; well, there is nothing very singular about that, no, but wait, it was on the 15th day, the 15th hour, with 15 letters in his name, and it was the 15th child (not dealing in numbers I failed to note whether 15 was a lucky number that day or not). Among the society events we make special mention of, is the marriage of one of our popular young operators, George H. Wilbourn to Miss Mary E. McDonough, both of Baltimore. The happy event came off September 26th. Among the many friends to witness the ceremony were Manager Bloxham, Chief Operator Grape, Wire Chiefs Frank G. Adams, Louis D. Wilbourn and nearly all the day force. Numerous and valuable presents were "the order of the day"; among them a handsome silver service from the groom's fellow craftsmen. It goes without saying that the new family have the best wishes of the whole office. Likewise our young and esteemed fellow operator Lenord Gentry, who with Miss Mary M. McDonald, joined the order of benedicts about two months ago, at Cumberland, Md. Lenord was working at Deer Park and the boys here were in the dark as to his in-

tentions until after the knot had been tied, and the happy couple on their way to the mountains to spend their honeymoon. As Jack Frost makes his appearance at Deer Park, the operators as well as the cool air seekers, seek their homes; hence Lenord is once more with us, and is working in the place of Montgomery at the Chamber of Commerce. Fred McCaghey, who has been spending the heated term at Bay Ridge, has also returned to his post, looking none the worse after a change of air. Mr. James MacKenzie, of 195 Broadway, New York, formerly one of the B. & O. chiefs, of that city, paid Baltimore a visit a short time ago, and your correspondent had the pleasure of showing him the sights and beauties of the monumental city. The last issue of the AGE was spoken of in the most eulogistic manner by its friends, and even the most skeptical confess it is fast becoming a great journal. The best proof, though, is the increased list of subscribers with prospects of many more.

(Other Baltimore items will be published later.)

PENNSYLVANIA, RY., NOTES.—A. A. Plant is at 849 Broadway office; W. H. Sherrard is subbing at Pier 1, N. R.; Messrs. Cuddy and Hubbard, of the Produce Exchange, have returned from vacations; H. W. Ramsay is extra in Jersey City; W. F. Taylor is back in "J" office; Frank McLaughlin leaves for the West on the 15th inst.; Dispatcher Wiess, who has been absent over a year is again in Jersey City; E. E. Creely is on the 12.30 P. M. trick, and W. H. Clark, on 9.15 P. M., in "J" office; F. G. Sorter is at Float Master's office, Jersey City; R. F. Lefold, at "Ru," nights; J. F. Watson, at "Ru," days *vice* Ed. Vogt, who is now with the Erie; Mr. Sillcox, from Iselin, on meadow relief trick, and Mr. Wm. Cook, to Iselin; J. C. Whitford, at "Ca" meadows, nights; Mr. Robbins, at "Fs"; A. B. Kline and F. Mallady, at "Gy"; Messrs. Bennett and Eichenberg, of Harrison Tower, have returned from vacations; Mose Ritter is again at "Ms," Newark, after exchanging with Mr. Stout, of Jersey City, for a week; Messrs. E. E. Rickert, L. J. Howell and J. R. Frazer are the regular extras, all at Newark; J. E. Saxe, sub extra at Newark, is a new arrival; Messrs. Chandler, Purcell and Gurrin, are at Centre street Junction, Newark; The tower was nearly demolished last month, by the Long Branch Express jumping the track, and Mr. Chandler had a narrow escape; "Ky" tower was destroyed by fire, on the 29th inst., caused by the collision of an oil train in front of the office; operator Thos. S. Smith had to jump thirty-five feet to the ground to save himself, not having time to save his coat or hat or any of the contents of the office; he escaped with slight injuries; there will be a large interlocking tower built at Waverly switches in a short time.

SIoux CITY NOTES.—Wm. B. Lower, secretary of the Sioux City Electric Light Company, is an old time telegrapher. During the "Corn Palace" just closed the force was increased by A. G. Enzenbacher and N. J. Kilburg, of Chicago. Mr. C. A. Beals will remain here for the present. Mr. J. P. O'Donnell is still confined to his room. N. Briere will leave for Canada November 1st. Mr. F. M. Reddick expects to go to Chicago soon with the W. U. The W. U. were permitted to have an office in the Corn Palace this year. It was in charge of Miss Etta Quillinan.

TRANSFERS.—Charles Smith, Hattiesburg, Miss., to Somerset, Ky.; H. C. Hickman, Union City, Pa., to Corry, Pa.; G. M. Clark, Detroit, to Broom Hill, Ont.; E. C. Cook, Lynn, to Fall River, Mass; W. S. Hutchinson, Post Office to Chamber of Commerce, Boston; R. J. Rockwell, Los Angeles, to San Francisco, Cal.; E. J. McManimon, San Francisco to Sacramento, Cal.; O. L. Emlay, is with a pool room, San Francisco; F. C. Burrows, Dallas, Tex., to W. U. St. Louis; F. Z. Edwards, Dallas, Tex., to the Mo. Pac. Ry., Denison, Tex.; L. B. Richards and C. B. Groves, Galveston to Dallas, Tex.; H. Stanbury, New York to Dallas, Tex.; Geo. S. Blank, Long Branch, N. J., to Turners, N. Y., for the Erie Ry.; M. R. Minor, Manhattan Crossing, Brooklyn, N. Y., to Lawrence Station, N. Y.



## MARRIAGES, BIRTHS AND DEATHS.

**MARRIED.**—Agnis M. Goalding, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George J. Goalding, and Mr. John Lorenz, of Johnstown, N. Y., were married September 27th, at Erie, Pa. Mr. Geo. J. Goalding, father of the bride, is an old time and military telegrapher, for many years past a prominent telegraph figure in Erie, Pa. Miss Goalding, now Mrs. Lorenz, was one of the favorites among Erie's handsome, amiable and accomplished daughters. She will make her future home in Johnstown, N. Y., where her husband is one of the representative young business men of that section of the country.

**MARRIED.**—Mr. R. T. Sullivan, of the cable office, was married on the 12th inst., to Miss Lizzie Foster, after which they left for Cornwall-on-Hudson, to spend their honeymoon. In addition to numerous congratulations they were the recipients of many valuable presents. Mr. Sullivan is prominently mentioned as a candidate for alderman, from the annexed district, this fall.

**MARRIED.**—Soaden—Sheridan—Sunday, October 7th, at St. Lawrence's Church, New York, by Rev. P. Massi, P. J. Soaden of the New York *World* to May T. Sheridan, of the Western Union main office, New York.

**MARRIED.**—At Philadelphia, Pa., September 22d, William E. Todd, all night chief of the Postal-Cable Co., to Miss Mamie E. Glenn, late of the same company.

**BORN.**—On the 2d inst., to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Lafaye, of Brooklyn, a daughter.

**DIED.**—Benj. C. Higdon, night manager of the Western Union Telegraph Company at New Orleans, died of asthma, October 9th, after an illness of only twenty-four hours. He was thirty years of age. The New Orleans office is draped in mourning out of respect to his memory. Mr. Higdon was a genial and popular official. He was a native of Cincinnati, Ohio, where he learned the business. He had been a resident of New Orleans about eleven years.

**DIED.**—J. J. C. Daughters, many years ago a well-known operator at Philadelphia, died in Kansas City, Mo., two weeks since while enroute to California for his health. Last winter he contracted a cold which finally developed into consumption. Mr. Daughters had been of late years prominently connected with the Erie Railway, as advertising agent, and was well-known and popular among a large circle of friends, who deeply deplore his untimely death.

**DIED.**—Benjamin Grant, of Newark, O., manager of the Telephone Exchange, at Decatur, Ala., when yellow fever broke out, died of the disease at Louisville, Ky., September 28th. He was married last June.

**DROWNED.**—Chas. W. Colbrath, a delivery clerk in the Detroit, W. U. office, was drowned in Lake St Clair, on September 26th, while sailing with a friend, who was also drowned. The Detroit operators attended the funeral and prepared a beautiful floral tribute to his memory. Mr. Colbrath was popular with all.

**DIED.**—Wm. H. Booth died at Branford, Conn., October 1st, 1888. He was an old member of the T. M. B. A.

**DIED.**—At his residence in Dallas, Texas, at 4:25 A. M., September 30th, Joseph S. Burton, aged 40 years. Funeral October 1st, at 4 P. M.

J. S. Burton has been connected with the telegraph business for twenty years or more, and was widely known as an able manager and electrician. He opened the first office in Dallas in 1871, as operator and manager, and lived to see it grow into the largest telegraph center in the southwest. In 1882 he was transferred to St. Louis, as chief clerk to Superintendent L. C. Baker. Returning to Dallas in 1885, he assumed the management of the B. & O. until September 1st, 1887, resigning on account of poor health. He was universally loved and respected by the fraternity for the kindness and justice always shown them. At a meeting called Sunday, September 30th, the following resolutions were adopted:

**RESOLUTIONS OF RESPECT.**—Whereas God in his infinite wisdom has seen fit to remove from our midst our beloved colaborer, companion and friend, Joseph S. Burton, who passed to his reward, at his home in the city of Dallas, Sunday morning, September 30th, at the hour of 4:15, at an age when the sands in the glass of most lives are but half wasted; and

Whereas the telegraphers of Dallas and North Texas have assembled here to pay to his memory the tribute of a formal expression of the love and esteem of theirs, which his exemplary life has won; therefore be it

Resolved, that while bowing humbly and reverently to the will of him who gives and recalls the vital spark at his pleasure, we recognize in the death of Joseph S. Burton, that a heart the most generous and pure has ceased to beat, lips that never spoke save in kindness and wisdom are silent, hands that never closed save in the grasp of friendship and affection are cold and still, a soul luminous with the light and warmth of love and feeling has left its earthly tabernacle to return to the God that gave it, and enjoy the rewards promised the good and the true.

Resolved, that our heartfelt sympathies are hereby extended to the bereaved family with the hope that there may be a light, however dim and feeble, to pierce and illumine the rayless gloom of grief consequent upon the loss of a loving and loved son and brother.

Resolved, that THE ELECTRIC AGE be requested to publish these proceedings.

R. K. SAUNDERS, Chairman.  
M. W. CONNOLLY, Secretary.

**CABLE REPAIRS.**—A Reuter's telegram, dated Bombay, September 11, says. Telegraphic communication between India and Europe, *via* Egypt, has to day been restored, one of the Bombay-Aden cables of the Eastern Telegraph Company having just been repaired.

**BREAKING OF AN ATLANTIC CABLE.**—The Anglo-American Company's Brest St. Pierre cable broke on Monday. This is the old 1868 cable, which was only repaired on the 28th of July last. It has always been a source of trouble and expense to the Anglo-American Company—in fact a new cable could have been laid with the money expended in repairs of this cable.

Manager Bach, of Fernandina, Fla., is down with yellow fever, and J. C. Robbins, from Jacksonville, is filling his place.

The New York Elevated Railroad has not hired an operator in six months. The demand is supplied by the company's plug factory, which is located at Chatham Square.

## ELECTRIC AGE PATENT BUREAU.

For the purpose of accommodating our friends we have made arrangements with Mr. John B. Sabine for the transaction of a general patent business.

Mr. Sabine has made electrical patents a specialty, and the success with which he has met during the past few years is the best evidence of his qualifications. He is also well-known to the entire fraternity, and can therefore be addressed with the utmost freedom, every communication being strictly confidential.

Thoroughness and promptness with the greatest care served in all cases.

The prosecution of applications for patents in the United States and all foreign countries, Re-issues, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, Design Patents and Labels prepared and carefully attended to.

Our charges will be as moderate and satisfactory in every respect.

Special searches instituted to determine the question of novelty or infringement.

Address J. B. Sabine, manager ELECTRIC AGE Patent Bureau, 5 Dey street, New York.



BOSTON NOTES.—Arrivals, main operating room: H. M. Marsh, J. F. Murphy, North Adams, Mass.; H. F. Wood, Concord, N. H.; R. J. Young, St. John, N. B.; J. H. Dewar, N. Y. & N. E. R. R. City. Arrivals in city line department: Miss Blanche Reed, from Narragansett Pier, R. I.; Miss Maggie Buckley, Watch Hill R. I., and Mr. Corliss, B. & L. R. R. City. Departures: J. E. Shorey, for Portland, Me.; Joe Walsh to take night press at Manchester, N. H.; Tom O'Leary, Charlestown, N. H.; Geo. Towne, Marlboro, Mass., for broker; Miss H. F. McKinnon, Denver, Colorado; Miss Kitty Crowley, to broker office. Messrs. Elliot and Harrison have returned from Cottage City and taken their regular wires. Messrs. Al Patterson and John McGlinchy have exchanged tricks for a month. Corporal Clark and Private Hutchinson of the Chamber of Commerce, will accompany the Ninth Regiment on its trip to Albany and New York City early in October. "Boston Fruits Produce Co." for Boston Fruit and Produce Co., is the latest in "bulls." Miss Mollie Dunn has been assigned to the "Highlands" wire in place of Miss McKinnon, resigned; Harry Howard has returned from Portland, and has been appointed manager of the Parker House office, *vice* Keating, transferred to General Post Office. Mr. T. J. Clifford, of the cable and leased quads, has been enjoying a much needed vacation. Mr. Tom Finan, of the Portland quad, relieved him. Mr. John G. Miller has been appointed manager of the Adams House, *vice* Mr. Frank Murphy, transferred to White River Junction. Mr. Geo. H. James, a well-known operator, is studying for the ministry, which he hopes to enter soon. Mr. Marsh, one of the late arrivals, closely resembles the late John T. Raymond. Mr. Dailey, of the Montreal wire, is building an elegant residence in East Boston. Mr. James H. Driscoll, of the 1 to 8 force, has returned from his vacation and again occupies his old position as leader of the "owl" quartette. Mr. Chris Shea, of the 7 till 4.30 trick, met with a painful accident on September 20th. He thrust his hand through a glass window, cutting it severely. Mr. John Malone, formerly of the Shoe and Leather District, is making quite a hit with one of Atkinson & Cook's Combinations, playing leading parts. Mr. Walter Lynch, of Lewiston, Maine, formerly of this office, is now with a broker in Lynn. Mr. Norton, of the Signal wire, nights, will soon make his debut as a comedian, as also will Mr. John Morris; both are very clever Irish comedians; we wish them success in their new venture. The extensive repairs and alterations which have been going on for some time on the coat room floor dispel the fond hopes that the company intended moving in the very near future to larger and more comfortable quarters. We have at present the largest working force in the history of the office, which, with the limited desk room, greatly overcrowds the main operating room. The sight of two operators sending or receiving on one set of repeaters was not an unusual one during the summer months. But when the chiefs were driven from their posts at the switch to make room for additional circuits, the necessity for better facilities was never more palpably demonstrated.

PITTSBURGH NOTES.—As stated in our last, we herewith submit the names of the entire Pittsburgh force, which is a first-class one in every respect:

J. W. Clark, Manager,  
T. D. Williams, Chief Operator,  
M. H. Markle, Assistant Chief,  
M. M. Munson, Traffic Chief,  
F. L. Bender, Night Chief Operator,  
W. D. Vincent, Assistant Night Chief.

## WIRE CHIEFS.

W. H. Maize, G. M. Eitemiller.

## REPEATER CHIEFS.

L. McMullen, B. F. Lawn.

George Stuart, Night Wire Chief,  
S. P. Hill, Night Repeater Chief.

## ALL NIGHT RECEIVERS.

T. E. Moreland, P. J. McKeever.

## OPERATING FORCE.

Miss Heskey,	J. K. Wetzel,
" Henderson,	J. K. Edwards,
" Thompson,	G. H. Ayers,
" Hill,	H. K. Atkinson,
" Gallagher,	G. A. Brooks,
" Kendicks,	G. F. Cella,
" Keller,	J. Connor,
" McConnell,	P. J. Crow,
Charles White,	P. S. Dilworth,
George Bausman,	R. S. Fluke,
John Algeo,	W. J. Gilson,
E. H. Smith,	J. K. Gibson,
W. H. Torrens,	M. P. Kelly,
Thos. Hooper,	C. O. Pierson,
H. W. Boyle,	W. N. Record,
P. A. Peterson,	G. C. Scott,
Isaac Weaver,	D. E. Skinner,
R. M. Yetter,	Jos. Greenie,
D. Wilson,	E. J. Kirby,
Jos. Dolphin,	C. A. Muse,
C. W. Osborn,	C. C. Nowlen,
Chas. Stough,	W. J. McGarr,
H. H. McPike,	M. D. Orcutt,
W. H. McCormick,	E. D. Bevier,
T. D. Miller,	N. P. Hunter,
R. H. McChesney,	W. Hasson,
W. L. Bennett,	Jno. Armstrong,
F. E. Reid,	W. S. Weible,
L. O. Cameron,	Ed. Bishop,
E. N. Forse,	M. M. Prescott,
C. A. Hawkins,	Jno. Tobin,
W. H. Clarke,	Ed. McKibbon,
J. R. Morris,	S. L. Gilson,
G. V. Watterson,	S. P. Hill,
Adam Schmill,	L. M. Merrick,
Wm. Marshall,	Jno. Ryan,
Geo. Morse,	Jno. Byrne,
Chas. Metinger,	Ed. Love,
Wm. Case,	David Ways,
Ed. Painter,	Chas. Moreland.
Robt. King,	

## BOOKKEEPERS.

J. D. Rhivers, Chief,  
Jos. Hunt, Jno. Shaw.

## COMMERCIAL NEWS DEPARTMENT.

Wm. Smith, Inspector,  
Miss Bessie Markle, Miss Bessie Eberhart,  
Miss Alice Harrison, Albert Snodgrass.

## NUMBER CLERKS.

Wm. Kerr, Geo. W. Rigler.

HOUSTON, TEX., NOTES.—The personal of the W. U. office is as follows:

G. C. Felton, Manager,  
E. C. McLaurin, Chief Operator,  
J. A. McNabb, Assistant Chief.

## OPERATORS.

H. C. Rollins, Alex More,  
John Burwell, T. McMillan,



Geo. L. Vaughan, Night Chief,  
F. N. McMillan, Assistant Chief.

T. L. Young, H. Towser, E. H. Howze

The latter receives press. Salaries range from \$70 upward with extra. At the Southern Pacific general office is Mr. Al. Shatto, with dispatchers C. C. Wamley, chief, H. H. White, first, McLeod, second, and J. J. Gavin, third trick, with operators, E. A. Rippey, days, and Mr. S. Earhart, nights. At the H. & T. C. general office, Mr. Thos. Fitzsimmons; dispatchers, W. L. Bisbee; chief, E. M. Burch and Mr. Clampitt. H. E. & W. T. general office, P. O. Lauve; dispatchers, J. C. Hill, chief; Mr. Alexander, assistant. International traffic association, Mrs. Bailey. I. & G. N. R. R., C. L. Smith, chief; W. H. Atkisson, first; J. D. Wheelhand, second, and R. Jones, third; M. P. Barr, operator. The Conyington plug factory is doing a big business here. However, the graduates have to seek other employment as soon as they are able to telegraph, for the reason that there are no places for them.

**THE CATLIN GRIP.**—Send ten cents to the ELECTRIC AGE, 5 Dey street, New York, and secure a copy of the picture "THE VICTOR KEY AND CATLIN GRIP," which is especially printed for framing. The picture will make an elegant and instructive ornament in any telegraph office. A large number have already been sold for this purpose. It is the cheapest and most suggestive telegraph picture on the market. Send for a copy, only ten cents.

The train dispatchers have never been able heretofore to make any substantial showing in maintaining an organization. This was due to the fact that they never had a journal which filled their requirements satisfactorily. Since the re-organization three months ago, the membership has jumped from 97 to 236. This growth, in our opinion, is almost wholly caused by the unceasing efforts and constant appeals of the *Railway Service Gazette*, which paper is peculiarly and admirably fitted to represent this important branch of the railway service. We congratulate the dispatchers on the excellent showing they are making. Their organization will now be both a success and a benefit.

**THE POSTAL COMPANY APPEALS TO THE INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR RELIEF AGAINST THE PACIFIC ROAD.**—The interstate-commerce commission on Sept. 24th received the first application for proceedings against the Pacific railroads under the act to require the Pacific roads to perform the obligations imposed on them by law in respect to telegraph service, and to make proper connections with such telegraph companies as may desire it. The application is from the Postal Telegraph and Cable company. The company complains that it is unable to afford to its patrons the means of reaching numerous important points now rapidly growing up between the Missouri river and the Pacific, to which it desires to extend the advantages of competition; and also that its connection over the Canadian Pacific is insufficient for the purpose of competition on the Pacific slope, besides being at times liable to interruption, and it asks of the commission that it make a proper order giving it means of connection over the American Pacific roads, which are now giving exclusive privileges to the Western Union. The commission has taken the matter under consideration and will announce its conclusions at an early day.

Odd stories are told of doings at Mr. Edison's home in Orange. One of the most amusing occurrences there happened not long since when a stranger was visiting Mr. Edison. After an evening largely devoted to a discussion of electricity, the guest went to bed. He had barely drawn the covers over him and settled down to sleep, when a voice, apparently from the clock on the dressing-case, said in measured tones: "It is now 11 o'clock." The startled guest threw off the covers, sat bolt upright, and felt the hair rising all over his head. Could he have been dreaming? No; he

was wide awake. Arising he turned on the electric light, searched every corner of the room, examined the innocent-looking clock, and finally called in Mr. Edison. The latter assured him that there was no one in the room, and with half-quieted fears the guest returned to bed. Half an hour had been consumed in the vain search for the origin of the mysterious voice, and the guest spent another half-hour in speculating upon the occurrence. Just as he had persuaded himself that the sound had been only part of a dream, and was going off into a half doze, the same voice in the same measured tone called out: "The hour of midnight has arrived! Prepare to die." There was no mistake this time, and the horrified guest, without waiting to turn on the electric light rushed across to Edison's room. The wizard, broad awake and half-dead with laughter, permitted his guest to rap three or four times, and then responded to his call. "Mr. Edison," said the disturbed sleeper, "there's something uncanny about this house. I wouldn't sleep here all night if you'd give me the place." Edison suppressed his laughter, heard his guest's story, and then, going to the room showed the stranger that there was a tiny phonograph concealed in the clock, and so set as to give forth its solemn announcement of the hours. The offending clock was removed, and the guest slept sound for the remainder of the night.

**THE COMMERCIAL CABLE CO. ORDERED A GENERAL INCREASE IN SALARIES RANGING FROM \$5 TO \$25 PER MONTH.**—For the efficient and intelligent work performed by the excellent force of the Commercial Cable Company during the twenty-seven months of cable war, a substantial reward is now being dealt out to all employes in the United States and in Europe. It consists of a raise in salary ranging from \$5 to \$25 per month. It was, no doubt, one of the happiest moments of his life, when General Manager Ward was informed that Mr. J. W. Mackay had agreed to a general raise of salaries, as a substantial acknowledgment of his recognition of the zeal and feeling of the force during the continuance of the strife. Mr. Mackay's magnanimity has manifested itself on many other occasions, and it is safe to say that each individual in the employ of the company has its interest at heart, and embraces every opportunity to promote its welfare. On this as on other occasions not even the messenger boys were overlooked. They were made happy by a \$5 per month raise; quite an item in these times. The employes, one and all, are loud in their praise, and unite in a general vote of thanks to Mr. John W. Mackay and George G. Ward, both of whom are great men for good men and good pay.

The Minister of the Interior has been authorized to enter into a contract with J. Sherman Bartholomew, residing in Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, or with any other persons or corporation, for the construction and maintaining of a submarine telegraph cable or cables to connect the islands of the Hawaiian group from Hawaii to Kauai, as follows: From Hawaii to Maui, from Maui to Oahu, with a landing on Mokolai, and from Oahu to Kauai, together with lines of land telegraph to connect the same with all or any points on the Hawaiian Islands. The contractors will have exclusive rights for submarine cables and connecting land lines for ten years. It is provided that the cables shall be ready for use by July 1, 1889. The sum appropriated as a subsidy for the cable lines is \$25,000.

Joseph J. Hellehen, for forgery, goes to the House of Correction for eighteen months. Hellehen at one time was proprietor of the new England Telegraph Institute, at Boston, and was arrested on a charge of obtaining money under false pretenses from patrons of the institute, by the case against him was settled. The offense for which he was sentenced was the signing of contracts with persons to whom he represented that he could get them desirable situations. Hellehen, says our correspondent, will be wise if it is warm for the winter. The police had been after him for a long time.



## PERSONAL MENTION.

E. F. Sherwood of the Metropolitan Telephone Company, of New York City, says they are serving 7,300 subscribers. They are using what they call trunk calling wires between several exchanges, one ending on John and the other at 39th street, for calling all trunk connections to the many exchanges operated by the company. The number of trunk wires connecting the exchanges in New York City is 532, and average sixty connections a day. This average could be increased to seventy per day, the number of subscribers could be increased 600 without increasing the trunk facilities. To other exchanges the Metropolitan has 187 trunk lines, all running smoothly, including the new Brooklyn exchange of the New York and New Jersey Telephone Co. The new switch board at 18 Cortlandt street is wired for 5, 100 subscribers a d 900 trunk wires. The local battery of each operator's outfit will be two cells of storage battery, one for day, the other for night. That used by day will be charged at night from the main storage battery, and the night battery charged from a dynamo during the day. 1,527 miles of wire are now underground, and 2,784 separate wires are altogether or in part so working.

Mr. F. A. Coleman is the manager of the W. U. office, Windsor Hotel, where quite a heavy business is daily transacted. In the corridors of this famous hotel, every evening, considerable stock business and speculation is done, which is a source of profit to the telegraph company. This hotel is also the headquarters of the railroad magnates when in the metropolis, which fact can be attested to by many telegraphers who have silently but thinkingly handled the voluminous dead head business.

Robert A. Ammon, a broker in this city, residing at Tompkinsville, S. I., but famous in 1877 as a leader in the great railroad strike at Pittsburgh, was arrested a few days since for fraud. Ammon was a telegrapher in the employ of the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago railroad before the great strike, and was an officer of the organization which included all classes of the railroad men, excepting the engineers.

A dispatch from Valpariso says: The Transandine Telegraph Company will open to the public its new direct telegraph line between Valpariso and Buenos Ayres October 1st. This is an iron pole line in connection with forty miles of cable laid under the perpetual snows of the Andes, and will insure communication between Buenos Ayres and London via Galveston inside of one hour and a half.

Some idea of the length of the telegraph lines of the United States can be arrived at, from the fact, that if connected up in a single circuit they would reach from the earth to the moon and have enough wire left to go twice round the earth. The telephone wires in use in the United States would encircle the earth about fourteen times.

Operator Smith, of the P. R. R., located near Jersey City, N. J., escaped death a few days ago by jumping out of a window, thirty feet high. He was in his accustomed place in one of the block towers, when a collision occurred, causing one of the trains to demolish the tower. The escape was a miraculous one.

A telegrapher has great advantages over the average man doing any business outside of a telegraph office he may undertake to carry on, but the greatest is the fact that anything taken care of will not require one half the labor needed to successfully work a key.

James McGinnis was instantly killed at Memphis, Tennessee, by shock from a dead telegraph wire that was crossed by a electric-light wire. The manager of the electric light company has been arrested for criminal carelessness.

Mr. R. J. Horwood, of the Santa Fe road, at Cleburne, Tex., gave us a call a few days since. Mr. Horwood is well-

known in cable circles both here and in Mexico. His numerous friends in New York were glad to see him.

Mr. Edward Curry, an old time ex-telegrapher, secretary of the Staten Island Rapid Transit Co., has a spicy, vivacious and amusing article on "The Humorous Side of Dots and Dashes," in the latest Staten Island magazine.

Mr. C. C. Hine, one of the oldest of the old time telegraphers, now editor of the Insurance *Monitor*, of this city, has just returned from an extended trip to California and Alaska. He was accompanied by his wife.

The father of J. A. and A. R. Wright, both well-known New York telegraphers, died a few days ago. He was an old-timer, having at one period been manager of the Trenton, N. J. and other offices.

T. M. B. A.—Assessment 222 has been levied to meet the claim arising from the death of Aaron Parson, who died of heart disease at Moravia, N. Y., July 17th, and should be paid before Oct. 31st.

Mr. Allie Rogers, the youngest operator on the cable staff at 16 Broad street, besides being a first-class telegrapher, is also a fine musician and an amateur photographer of some note.

Dr. Ira C. Brown and William A. Stevens, of Buffalo, on September 28th was elected members of the Executive Committee of the Electrical Aid Association.

Dr. E. W. Buckley, of this city, has the sympathy of his numerous acquaintances in the loss of his father, who died of heart disease, September 28th.

Mr. John S. Fretts, the last one of the party of American telegraphers, who went to Siam, three years ago, has returned to the United States.

Mr. B. F. Darbyshire, a well-known Fort Worth, Tex. operator, has been appointed night chief operator of the W. U. office.

The Palmer, Mass. *Journal* says Fred Conant is a student in telegraphy under the instruction of Mrs. I. E. Bolton.

Mr. C. W. Kay, of the Central Cable office, has returned from a few week's vacation spent in Canada.

Mr. S. F. Austin, superintendent of the French Cable Co. this city, is enjoying a well-earned vacation.

Mr. Maurice Brick, of The Associated Press, Washington, D. C., is visiting friends in this city.

W. B. Ludwig has accepted a position at Montgomery, Ala., with the Western Union.

Mr. W. C. Pearse, Philadelphia agent of The United Press, was in town last week.

J. J. Crawford a well-known operator, has gone to Atlanta, Ga., for the W. U.

Mr. E. P. Johnston, is manager of the Commercial Union Co., at Rutland, Vt.

Wm. A. Shannon, of Nashville, Tenn, has gone into other business.

Mr. Eugene Perkins, recently from Siam, is in the city.

Mr. D. J. Cox is with a broker in the Mills building.

The longest telephone line in Germany has been opened between Berlin and Breslau.

Telegraph lines should be constructed by the government. This is not original. But it should be repeated until the boys ring the chestnut bell on it, and after that repeated until the legislation takes the matter in hand and gives the business over to uncle Sam. Postage on letters used to be twenty-five cents, now it is two cents. Let the government take telegrams in hand also and give uniform rates. If a letter can be sent to any part of the nation for the same postage it would be sent a mile, telegrams could be also. No more men are employed in telegraph offices than in the mail service, and—they receive no better pay.—*Ex.*



WESTERN UNION NOTES.—The grief of the little check boy who last pay day lost his pocketbook containing two weeks salary, amounting to \$9.10, was changed to one of happiness through the kindness of Mr. Ed. Cummings, the general traffic chief, who very thoughtfully took up a collection necessary to make the loss good. But then it is one of Mr. Cummings' characteristics to be thoughtful as well as good. Leslie Miller is with a well known troupe in the South. He is a fine actor, and we are happy to say is meeting with success. Mr. Stanberry has departed for Dallas, Texas. Eddie Walsh, after an absence of several years in the far West, is on the day force. Frank Howell has changed from the Stock Exchange to the regular night force. Martin Erwin, late of the *Sun* Bureau, has changed places with Frank Griffith of the regular night force. Dr. Weyant is on the 1 to 8 A. M. force, his place on the regular night force having been taken by William Sterling. Mr. Lynch has departed presumably for Louisville. Harry Whallon has gone to Chicago. Mr. Smith, of the Providence wire, smiles because its a girl; James Nallon because its a boy. Mr. Joseph O'Leary surprised a host of friends a few days ago, by marrying Miss Nellie Gibson, a most estimable young lady and sister of William Gibson, the well-known operator. We wish them joy and happiness. Walter Perkins is playing a good character in one of Herne's pieces now on the road. Chief Operator Nourse, is drawing around him on the East a galaxy of stars of which he may well be proud. The third Boston quad, one of the heaviest if not now the heaviest wire running to the Hub, is manned at this end by the following well-known artists: Leith, Kline, Ramsdell and Martin. Messrs. Wilton, Blair, Merrill and Wood hold their own at the other end. That Mr. Nourse is the right man in the right place, is shown from the fact that since his appointment, the business has been handled in a most satisfactory manner and this too in the face of nearly a four fold increase. Miss Ganong has returned from Fire Island; Harry Edson from Elberon and Miss Ida Dealing, from—Pshaw! your correspondent forgets where.

POSTAL NOTES.—Appointments to the regular force: Miss C. A. Stevens, Mrs. Mallenberg, F. F. Norton, E. Kimmey and E. Fullman. Departures: D. F. Brown to Chicago; M. D. Barnwell to The United Press; and James Morgan, Thomas J. Dunn has transferred from night to day force; Miss J. Cortissoz is on the sick list.

Steps are being taken to organize a division of the "O. R. T." in Newark, N. J., on Sunday, the 21st inst., and all New Jersey operators should be present. This promises to take in nearly every operator on the New York division of the P. R. R. Information can be obtained of Messrs. W. W. Horne, E. E. Creely and E. B. Stout, of Jersey City; Mose Ritter, E. E. Rickert and L. J. Howell, of Newark; J. M. Denison and J. J. Bowles, of Waverly, and the prominent operators at other points.

#### "NOTICE."

Annual dramatic performance and reception to the New York telegraph operators at Turn Hall Theater, 66 and 68 East 4th street, New York City, on Monday evening, October 15th, at 8 P. M. Reception 10.30. Tickets admitting gentleman and ladies 50 cents. For sale at all telegraph offices.

Mr. W. B. Southwick, a well-known telegrapher, both in this city and throughout the country, having worked in nearly all the large cities, now of the Providence and Stonington Steamship Co., Pier 36, N. R., will, with Mr. F. G. Patchin, city manager of the well-known cigar firm of Julius Ellinger & Co., 51 Murray street, sail for a three month's trip abroad about February 1. They intend visiting London, Liverpool, Glasgow, Paris, Madrid and other places.

Dr. Charles J. Perry, for twenty years with Hudnut, the druggist, and well-known to all the prominent telegraph and newspaper people in New York, has opened a drug store of his own in the *Sun* building. Mr. Perry's generosity to the telegraph operators in years past, has earned their gratitude, and they will now remember him in the future, when looking for remedies for their aches and pains.

The Commercial Cable Co's office at the Hoffman House, has recently been re-modeled and is now beyond a doubt, one of the handsomest cable offices in the city. They have two direct wires to Canso, N. S. one being a duplex. The clerk in charge is James Delany. This office handles a very large amount of business.

In the last issue we accidentally transferred, on paper, Mr. L. J. Howell, from the P. R. R., to the C. R. R., of N. J. at Newark N. J. This was an error. Mr. Howell is part of the foundation of the P. R. R. and has no intention of changing.

Mr. S. H. Brown, a well known eastern operator and organizer for the O. R. T., is now located in Lincoln, Nebraska, where he is despatching trains.

A. G. Sibbald, late with the B. & O., is now relieving Manager Moak, of the 444 Broome street office, who is away on a vacation.

Mr. Charles Selden, general superintendent of the B. & O. Railway telegraphs, was in the city this week.

Mr. J. P. Kohler, formerly of New York, now of Portland, Or., was in town this week on business.

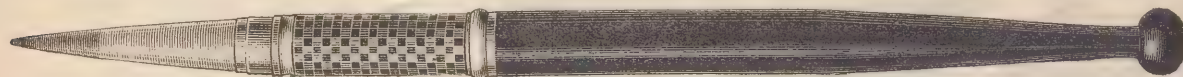
Telegraph and railroad construction in Mexico is continuing to make rapid progress.

Elevated Railroad men are eligible to membership in the O. R. T.

The French telegraphers did not strike as was contemplated.

## ELEGANT EBONY HANDLE STYLUSES FREE.

On receipt of two NEW yearly or four six monthly subscriptions, we will send free to any address an elegant ebony handled, gold ferrule, agate stylus. The first one sent out under this arrangement elicited this response: Stylus received O.K. It is the best and prettiest I have ever seen. I prize it very highly. It cost me but about five minutes of time, and a two cent stamp.



THIS STYLUS SENT FREE ON RECEIPT OF TWO NEW YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS.

On receipt of one NEW yearly subscription, we will send free to any address an elegant straight cedar handled agate stylus—an elegant and useful article for all operators.



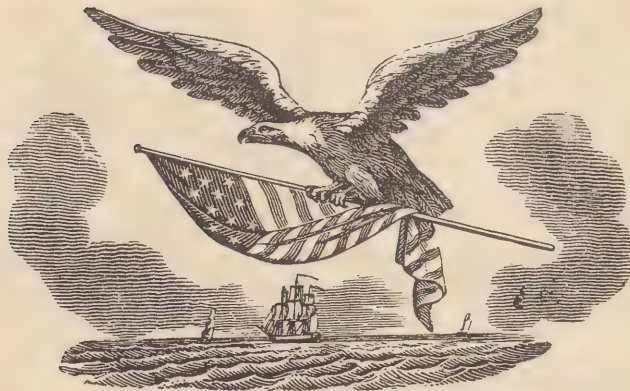
THIS STYLUS SENT FREE ON RECEIPT OF ONE NEW YEARLY SUBSCRIPTION.

Remit by post office money or express order to J. B. Taltavall, THE ELECTRIC AGE, 5 Dey St., New York.



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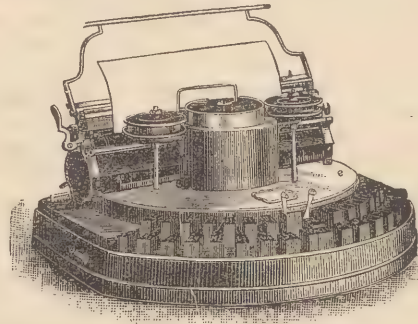
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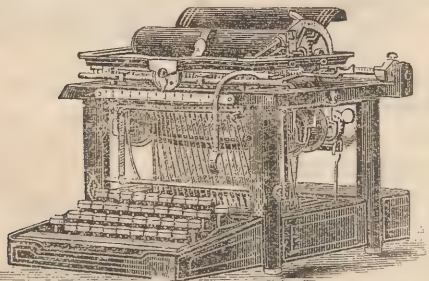
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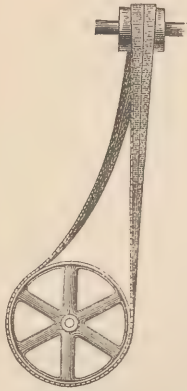
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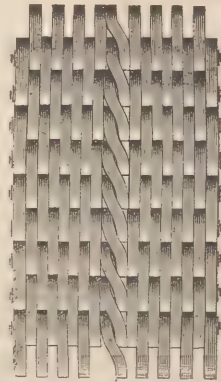
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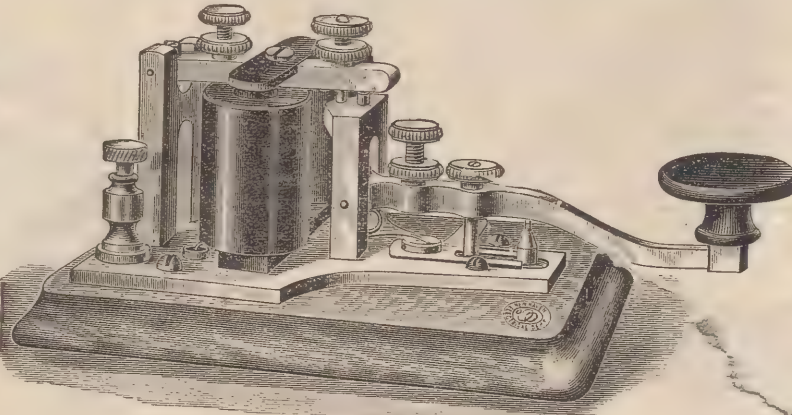
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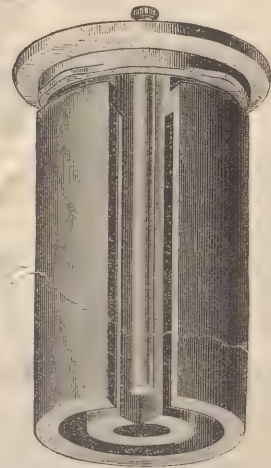
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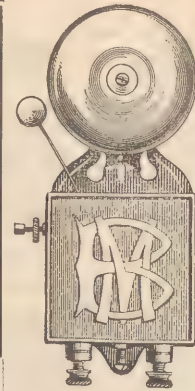


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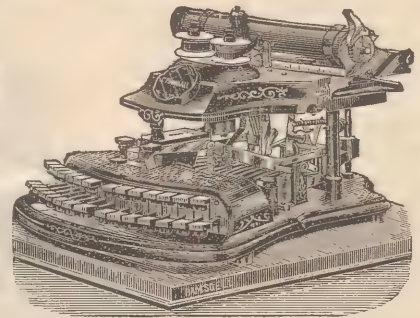
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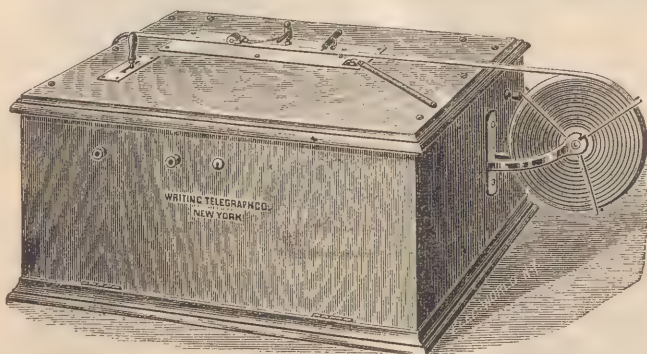
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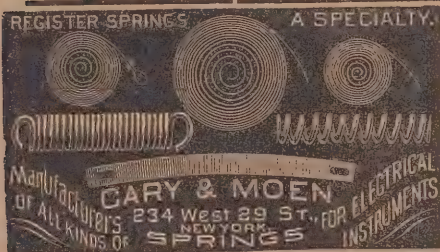
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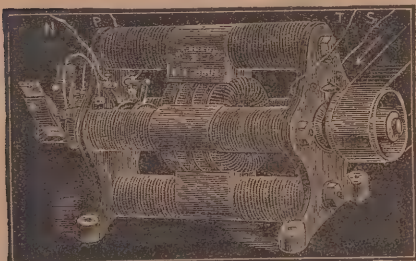
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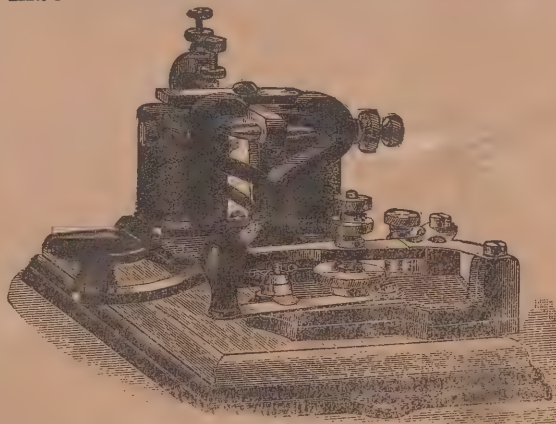
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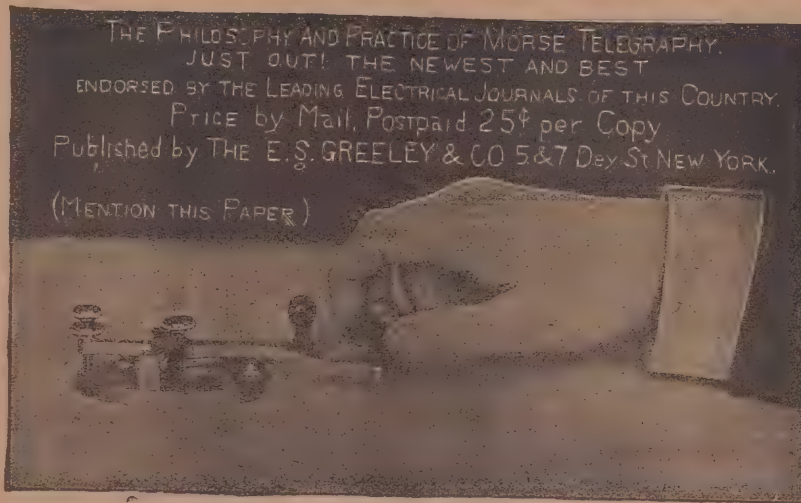
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The truth (referring to the true position of the telegraphers' hand in the act of “sending”) exposed by a lightning wink of the instantaneous camera, and permanently fixed for our deliberate inspection by the science of photography, dawns upon the craft intellect accompanied with something of the amazement that startled the artistic world when the elaborate anatomical studies by Rosa Bonheur of the horse in the act of running, were delivered over to universal ridicule by the subtleties of the same agent, instantaneous photography.

*The Electrical Review, March 24th, '88.*

## THE E. S. GREELEY & CO.

Successors to L. G. TILLOTSON & CO.

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BURGLAR ALARM, ELECTRIC BELL, EXPERIMENTAL  
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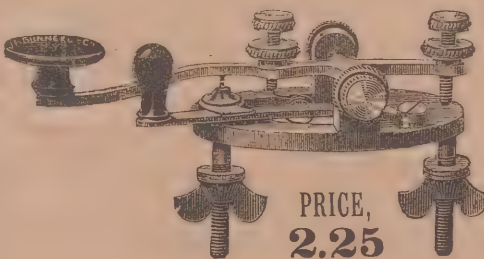
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## J. H. BUNNELL & CO'S STEEL LEVER SOLID TRUNNION KEY.

Telegraphers cannot fail to have noticed that upon the introduction of the BUNNELL STEEL LEVER KEY four years since, it at once achieved a vast popularity, such as never before attached to any specialty in Telegraph Instruments, and that this popularity has continually increased, and is still increasing.

It will also be noticed by Telegraphers, that since the STEEL LEVER KEY was introduced, a brood of "improved" keys has been hatched and put forward from various sources from time to time each one made to look as much like the



STEEL LEVER KEY as possible, or made with some kind of a "steel lever," or "patent lever," and in every case claiming all the merits possible and impossible that language could describe.

Most of these "improved keys" have become exterminated by the force of their own worthlessness. Years of practical test in the use of THOUSANDS of BUNNELL STEEL LEVER KEYS throughout America demonstrates their perfection and popularity. BE NOT DECEIVED BY THE ABSURD IMITATIONS.

THE BUNNELL STEEL LEVER KEY is more durable, and in every respect better than any other for rapid and perfect sending for the following reasons:

The Lever is only one-half the weight of the ordinary brass lever as generally made. The entire Lever and Trunnions together being made of but one piece of fine wrought steel, the common defect of loose trunnions is avoided, the strength of a heavy brass lever is obtained with much less weight of metal, and, by the perfect bearing which the solid trunnion gives, together with the use of hardened platina points, sticking is absolutely prevented. The size and proportions are such as to make it the most perfect operating key possible to obtain, either for the hand of the skilled and rapid expert, or the beginner.

**Price, \$2.25. Finely Finished, and Lever Nickel Plated.**

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Steel Lever key sent by mail, post-paid to any part of the U. S. or Canada on receipt of the above price, by Registered Letter or Money Order. Until further notice we will exchange our New Steel Lever Keys for old keys for a cash difference of \$1.50 each. This price applies to any number of Keys, no matter in what condition the old ones may be. They must be delivered to us in packages plainly marked KEYS with all charges prepaid.

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10,000 Caligraphs are in daily use. We publish 400 letters from prominent men and firms which are convincing.

THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

C. G. Muller, Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

Cincinnati, October 5th, 1885.

Sir:—About three months since, I commenced to use the Caligraph with a view to receiving special despatches from the wires, instead of by the old method by the pen. In about three weeks I was able, by diligent practice, to write from thirty-five to forty words per minute. Since then I have been using the machine with success receiving from five to six thousand words per night upon it. We have found the machine of such value in the work as to be able to receive the despatches by code, or abbreviation, thus increasing this capacity of the wire, though the matter is written out in full upon the Caligraph. We make an average speed of fifty words per minute by this method, and expect to do still better work with it.

The machine is a No. 2 and must be a marvel of durability, as it has never been out of order under this continuous and heavy strain, and is always ready for use.

Very truly yours, Signed; Frank B. Ross, Opr. Commercial Gazette. C. G. Muller, Esq., Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O. October 5th, 1885.

Dear Sir:—I cheerfully certify to the correctness of the above statement of our operator. Signed; Chas. E. Thorp, Telegraph Editor C. G.

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THE AMERICAN WRITING MACHINE CO.,

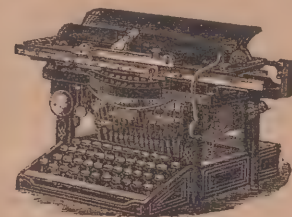
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CINCINNATI, July 25, '88. Highest speed on legal work.

NEW YORK, Aug. 2, '88. Highest speed on correspondence.

TORONTO, Aug. 13, '88. (International Tournament for World's Championship.) 1st and 2nd Prizes, business correspondence, 1st and 2nd Prizes, legal testimony (gold and silver medals). Pamphlet with portraits of Miss Orr, (champion) and McGurkin, sent on application to

Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,  
327 Broadway, New York.



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J. B. TALTAVALL, Editor and Publisher,  
 C. H. BOGLE, Manager, Advertising Dept.

J. B. SABINE, Manager Patent Bureau,  
 No. 5 Dey St., New York.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 1, 1888.

We have just established a patent bureau in connection with this publication, for the transaction of a general business pertaining to patents. We solicit your business, believing that our methods will give entire satisfaction. For years, many of our readers have urged the establishment of this bureau, through which they could procure in an intelligent manner letters patent for their ideas in the electrical line, without making a costly trip to explain simple electrical problems. Mr. J. B. Sabine, who has charge of this department, needs no introduction to the profession. He has grown up with the telegraph business and at the same time has kept abreast of the times. A better selection could not have been made. His experience as a patent attorney covers several years, so that this knowledge, of itself, is most valuable. Inventors desire to turn their ideas over to an attorney, capable of protecting them as far as the laws will permit, Mr. Sabine, is capable and thorough and can be trusted with electrical case of an intricate and difficult character.

The manager of a Western telegraph office was sent to jail for refusing to produce telegrams in court. After remaining there about twenty-four hours, the dispatches were surrendered and he was released. Superintendent Dickey telegraphed the manager to remain firm, that the company wished to make a test case of the matter. For many years the Western Union Telegraph Company has been endeavoring to settle the vexatious question in court, but without material result. It seems to us that a telegram should be as sacred as a letter and until it is decided so, the business community will reluctantly trust to the wires any of their business or other secrets.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company is experimenting, it is said, with an automatic danger signal, which is designed to supersede the block signal in use at present on the road. The system is operated by electricity. The block system, which is 500 miles long, costs \$600,000 a year to maintain, while the new signal can be operated for \$100,000 a year.

**CABLE FINANCES.**—Secretary Ward, of the Commercial Cable Company, on October 16th, published the following: Notice is given that it is intended to increase the capital of this Company from \$6,000,000 to \$10,000,000 by the creation of forty thousand additional shares, each of the par value of \$100.

In regard to the increase in the Commercial Cable stock to \$10,000,000, Vice President DeCastro says: "The capital amounted to over \$10,000,000 and only \$6,000,000 of stock expended in building and laying the Commercial Cables was issued. The idea is now to take up the outstanding bonds as fast as they mature and probably to anticipate the maturity of a part of them and replace them with stock. Up to the present time \$600,000 have been returned."

The Western Union Telegraph Company has added 90,000 miles to its system during the past year. Forty-six thousand miles of this were, of course, acquired by the purchase of the Baltimore & Ohio lines. Five thousand miles more were taken in with another small company, but 40,000 miles have been actually built and paid for out of earnings. When the reflection is made that 90,000 miles of wire would go round the earth nearly four times, some idea of what this increase actually amounts to may be arrived at.

**WESTERN UNION ANNUAL MEETING.**—At the annual meeting of the Western Union held October 10th, Henry M. Flagler was elected a director. The Standard Oil interest, therefore, has a representation in Gould's Telegraph Company.

The annual report shows profits of \$5,070,571, against \$4,037,281 the previous year. The dividends declared were \$4,043,949, against \$811,864 in 1887, showing the enormous increase of \$3,232,085.

New Bedford, Mass., wants better telegraph facilities and her Board of Trade has requested the Western Union to supply them.

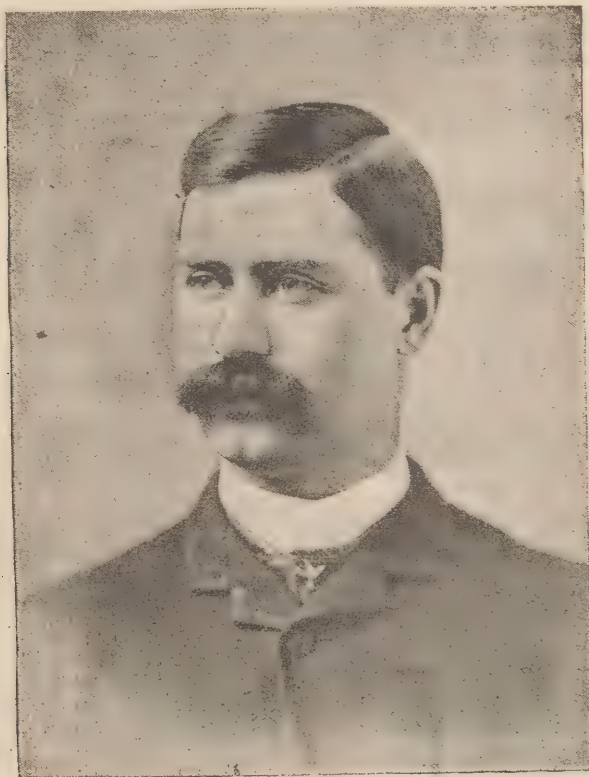
Willis J. Cook, familiarly known as "Bif," died at the home of his parents in Sandusky, Ohio, October 23d, from blood poisoning, resulting from malarial fever, contracted at Aspinwall, where he was chief operator for the Panama Railway. There are not many men, in any walk of life, the announcement of whose death would cause a feeling of such sincere sorrow as will be felt when it becomes generally known that death has claimed little "Bif" at the early age of thirty-six. He arrived in New York, a few weeks ago, looking very ill, but as full of bright sayings and original criticisms on men and things as ever. He said he had been in the hospital at Aspinwall, off and on, for a year, and though he spoke hopefully of his ultimate recovery, it was plain to the many who called to see him at the Roosevelt Hospital that he was very ill. He was terribly emaciated, and the peculiar color his complexion had taken on indicated that he was poisoned through and through. It was taken for granted when his father came on from Sandusky and removed the sufferer to his old home, that the hospital physicians had informed the parents that their son's end was not far off, and so it turned out. A few days after his arrival in Sandusky, he passed away. It has been truthfully said of our dead comrade, "Yet has he in him something beautiful which puts men's hearts in tune." It is not easy to say wherein he was so fascinating; by what means he interested everybody who knew him or in what way he won the lasting regard of all, but that he did these things is undeniable. He was one of the most genuine of men and he had a good heart, but this is true of others not nearly so well beloved as "Bif" was. There was a charm about him which was indefinable. A magnetism that was as insusceptive of analysis as it was irresistible, and which never deserted him until his cheerful heart was stilled forever.



## GEORGE M. MYERS.

A WESTERN REPRESENTATIVE TELEGRAPHER.

George M. Myers was born in New York city, November 25th, 1855. While quite young his parents moved to Penn Yan, Yates County, N. Y., where farming pursuits were followed until 1862, when they moved to Monroeville, Ohio. At this point young Myers' education was completed, by going to school during the winter and working on a farm during the summer months. The telegraph operator at Monroeville induced him to carry messages, and clean the local batteries twice a week, for the privilege of picking up what information he could about the telegraph. In 1870 at the age of 15, young Myers was offered a position as night operator, at Berea, Ohio, a very important telegraph point, being a junction office for the L. S. & M. S., and C. C. C. & I. railroads. In 1874 he was promoted to the night manager ship of the L. S. & M. S. telegraph office at Toledo, Ohio, and in



GEORGE M. MYERS.

the course of three or four months was appointed day manager, a very important position. In 1875 Mr. Myers took the "western fever" and resigned. He located at Kansas City shortly afterwards, where he secured a position in the Western Union office. In 1876 the Atlantic & Pacific Telegraph Co., extended its lines to Kansas City and Mr. Myers was appointed chief operator. In 1877 Mr. J. J. Dickey, Superintendent of the company, offered him a position in his office at Omaha, Neb., which was accepted. In 1879 when the American Union Telegraph Co., was organized, Mr. Myers was appointed manager of the Kansas City office, and when the American Union and the Western Union Companies consolidated, he was made manager of the Western Union office at St. Joseph, Mo.

Then in due course of time the Mutual Union reached out to Kansas City, when Mr. Myers was induced to become their manager at that place.

It was at this junction that Mr. Myers conceived the idea of organizing the Pacific Mutual Telegraph Co. His plans were rapidly formed and a company was organized comprising the best business people of Kansas City. The line

was extended in connection with the Mutual Union, but before the first hundred miles were completed, the announcement was made that the Western Union had swallowed the Mutual Union. This, of course, cut off the eastern connection of the Pacific Mutual, which necessitated "shutting up shop" for the time being. There is no doubt that, if the Mutual Union had held out, the Pacific Mutual would have had its wires into San Francisco long ago.

Mr. Myers, not the least disheartened, began to search for a connecting link, and soon discovered the great Baltimore and Ohio pushing its circuits toward St. Louis. He hastily visited Baltimore where a satisfactory contract was agreed to, when he returned again to Kansas City, and at once extended the Pacific Mutual lines to St. Louis, to meet and connect with the Baltimore and Ohio. Later on the line was extended to Omaha and then to Sioux City, Iowa, touching the important points in Nebraska.

Upon Mr. Myers' retirement from the Pacific Mutual last May, the company owned nine hundred miles of poles and five thousand miles of wire, all the lines being the best that could be constructed and undoubtedly the finest telegraph line ever built in Missouri or West of the Mississippi river.

Mr. Myers is now General Manager of the Home Telegraph Company, which company he also organized in 1882, and which is purely local, having no lines extending more than five miles in length. The Home Telegraph, correctly speaking, is a district company, but has a very large plant, the wire mileage being nearly 75 miles.

As an index of the energy and push of Mr. Myers, it is only necessary to add that the Pacific Mutual Co., prospered and made money during the fiercest telegraph war ever known, and as a consequence the Missouri Valley has enjoyed almost uninterrupted competition in telegraph rates since 1883. At no time has opposition ever lived one year in that section, until the Pacific Mutual was organized. One of the planks in its declaration was "we have come to stay," and there it still is, much to the gratification of Mr. Myers and the public at large.

In 1882 Mr. Myers was united in marriage to Miss Laura Boyd, of Kansas City, a lady admired by all who have the pleasure of her acquaintance.

## THE BABYHOOD OF TELEGRAPHY.

BERNARD O'CONNOR AND PROF. MORSE.

By James D. Reid, in the *Western Electrician*.

## Part I.

Toward the end of May last a lengthy but very readable article appeared in the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, which was quite generally copied, giving the result of an interview with Bernard O'Connor of Fort Wayne, Ind., one of the pioneer telegraph builders, now a venerable and wealthy man. As he used my name in his somewhat singular narration, I have thought it due to the honest fame of dead and dear friends to correct several obvious errors. I do this more readily because my intimacy with all the parties was, perhaps, greater than that of almost any one of them with each other, and because I had very peculiar opportunities for knowing the true inwardness of almost all that was done in those early days. I am glad also to come once more into contact, not to say in conflict, with Bernard O'Connor, of whom I have not heard since he finished the building of the lines to St. Louis in 1847, and of whom I retain a very pleasant memory and regard.

In this interview Mr. O'Connor is made to say that the first lines built westward from Harrisburg to Pittsburg were a continuation of the government line from Washington to Baltimore. This is an error rather than an incorrectness. The lines which were first started west were commenced at Lancaster, Pa., in September, 1845, and were built under a well-known contract with Henry O'Reilly, who died in Roch-



ester, N. Y., a few years ago, under whom, and with myself as superintendent, Mr. O'Connor and John J. O'Reilly prosecuted the work. These lines had no organic connection with the lines between Washington, Philadelphia and New York, although for some time I was the superintendent of both.

*Sunday Work.*—It is certainly true that after the completion of certain sections of line as the work proceeded westward, delay occurred in getting them to work, corresponding remarkably with the Sunday work performed upon them. It was a very singular truth, and caused much remark. Without undertaking to account for it, and being then as always opposed to unnecessary Sunday work and rather pleased to prevent it, I took no pains to disturb the belief entertained that the loss of time in securing the proper working of the newly erected wires was the result of Sabbath violation. Of their own accord the builders established that relation. It caused the stoppage, for a time at least, of all outside Sunday work.

The narration of the interview continues as follows :

*"The Earth as a Conductor.*—Here a discovery was made that greatly reduced the expense of construction. The three men, J. D. Reid, Henry O'Reilly and B. O'Connor, had a conference at Lancaster, and all three came to the conclusion that as it was conceded that the discharge of the positive pole of the battery did return to the negative pole the ground could be used to complete the circuit. The line was pushed on to Harrisburg and only one wire was used. The experiment was tried, and to the great joy of the three men, worked at once. Mr. O'Connor said that Mr. O'Reilly, before the single wire had been put up, wrote to Prof. Morse and told him they were going to make the experiment, stating that he believed it would work. The professor replied impertinently, and told him he had better let scientific matters alone and attend to his own business. After it had been discovered to work successfully, Mr. O'Reilly again wrote to Professor Morse, and told him what they had accomplished. Mr. O'Connor states that Professor Morse then published an article in the Baltimore *Clipper*, in which he stated that, in consequence of a wire breaking, it had been discovered that the ground could be used as a conductor to complete a circuit."

The credit given to J. D. Reid, Henry O'Reilly and Bernard O'Connor as to the discovery of the curious fact that the earth could be used as a "return wire" without using a second wire as had been supposed essential, I would be very glad to acknowledge as correct, but it is utterly baseless except perhaps in the proof we occasionally had of the fact, and which, no doubt, induced some original reflections. None of us were "up" in electrical knowledge at that time, and the little I myself then possessed gave me much consequence, and caused me to be spoken of as "professor." The truth is that the knowledge of the earth as a conductor is due primarily to the researches of Dr. Watson of England in or about 1747, while experimenting with the Leyden jar. In July, 1747, he conveyed the electric shock across the river Thames, at Westminster bridge, and a few days after he caused it to make a circuit of two miles at the New River or Stoke-Newington. A circuit of four miles, two of wire and two of dry ground, was completed in August of the same year, and in the same month he satisfied himself and his friends that the velocity of electricity in passing through a wire 12,276 feet, was instantaneous. It is somewhat curious to know that this same Dr. Watson was the first to demonstrate by some very beautiful experiments the passage of electricity through a vacuum by use of an exhausted tube three feet in length. This was just previous to the famous experiments of Dr. Franklin now so familiar to the world. So this trio of worthy men were not at least original discoverers, although at times much impressed with the fact by shocks of electricity suffered in their persons, as the work of erecting the wire proceeded.

I remember very well that on one sultry day, as the men were partaking of their mid-day meal, a venturesome bull calf approached the embankment of the Lancaster and Harrisburg railroad, and with open eyes and an observant head studied the progress of the dinner. He stood near a pole upon which the wire had just been erected, and the end of which hung within a few feet of the ground. This finally attracted the young quadruped's attention, and after gazing at it a moment he put out his tongue to prove its materiality. Just then a cloud overhead loaded the wire with a comfortable charge of Pennsylvania lightning, which at once developed itself in the calf, who, uttering a loud shout of surprise, disappeared—tail erect and stiff—over the adjoining fence. He had illustrated in a very happy way to us the tendency of the electric current to seek the earth even if it had to pass through the integuments of a bull calf's viscera.

I remember also amusing the men by sending a message to Harrisburg by using the point of a wire to write the Morse character on the surface of the water of the canal, and which was correctly received on the register at Harrisburg.

In the then comparative ignorance of electric matters on the part of the wisest of us, this may have been properly regarded as a great achievement, and undoubtedly secured some friendly glory in which Mr. O'Connor with his natural goodness joined, and perhaps still retains. Time, however, has broadened our vision, and made us more modest.

(To be continued.)

#### TELEGRAPH PATENTS GRANTED.

390,642. Mechanical telegraph ; John B. Bennett, Indianapolis, Ind., assignor, by mesne assignments, to Alban Andren, Beverly, Mass.

390,741. Insulator or bracket support for electric wires ; Thomas E. Adams, Cleveland, Ohio.

390,748. Battery electrode ; Horatio J. Brewer, New York, N. Y.

390,802. Telegraphy ; F. Jarvis Patten, Fort Sidney, Neb.

## THE ELECTRIC AGE PATENT BUREAU.

For the purpose of accommodating our friends we have made arrangements with Mr. John B. Sabine for the transaction of a general patent business.

Mr. Sabine has made electrical patents a specialty, and the success with which he has met during the past few years is the best evidence of his qualifications. He is also well-known to the entire fraternity, and can therefore be addressed with the utmost freedom, every communication being strictly confidential.

Thoroughness and promptness with the greatest care observed in all cases.

The prosecution of applications for patents in the United States and all foreign countries, Re-issues, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, Designs and Labels promptly and carefully attended to.

We will be glad to furnish copies of any United States patents on receipt of 25 cents each.

Our charges will be moderate and satisfactory in every respect.

Special searches instituted when desired to determine the question of novelty or infringement.

Address J. B. Sabine, Manager ELECTRIC AGE Patent Bureau, 5 Dey Street, New York.

Correspondence solicited.



## NEW MUTUAL UNION MAIN OFFICE, BOSTON.

By far the finest telegraph office in this city is that of the Mutual Union Company, No. 33 Milk street. The lease of the old quarters, No. 77 Milk street, having expired, and the office of the old B. & O. being available, it was selected as the best place for continuing the Mutual business. Everyone at all familiar with Superintendent D. J. Hern, knows that when that official attempts anything, he never does it by halves, and the present Mutual Union office is a fitting monument to his skill and genius in fitting up a large office, alike commodious and convenient to public and employe. The removal from the old office was accomplished without a single interruption of any kind, and much credit is due to Chief Operator Burke and Foreman Oakes for its successful accomplishment.

The dimensions of the new office are 90 feet long x 24 feet wide, and it is fully equipped, not only for its own business, but is especially adapted for assisting the Western Union office in case of any disaster to the latter.

The operating department contains two sextette and seven quad. tables, two full quadruplex sets, thirty single sets and two duplexes, and has working accommodations for fifty operators. The coat and toilet rooms are everything that could be desired. The receiving portion of the office, for the public, is both capacious and elaborate, and every convenience is offered customers desiring to await reply to telegrams.

The delivery department is in the rear of the operating room and contains, also, the District Call System for the immediate vicinity.

The entire office is lighted by electricity, and the general appearance is of the most striking nature, and in vast contrast with the dingy and untenable quarters formerly occupied by the B. & O.

The operating department is presided over by Chief Operator J. H. Burke, while Cashier J. P. Neary attends to both the public and the finances, in a most satisfactory manner.

ST. LOUIS AID SOCIETY DISBANDED.—The St. Louis Telegraphers' Aid Society, which was organized on April 22d, has been disbanded. The following resolutions were offered by Vice-President D. B. Grandy, at the quarterly meeting held October 21st:

Whereas, we believe that the Telegraphers' Aid Society has given all connected with the Telegraph business in this city an opportunity to sustain an institution which would have been of great benefit to them, and Whereas: They have failed to avail themselves of that opportunity, and have shown no disposition to support an aid society, and Whereas: The membership of this society has steadily decreased from 74 to 48, which, in our judgment is not an encouragement to continue the society in operation, therefore

Resolved: That the Telegraphers' Aid Society be, and is hereby disbanded.

Resolved: That the balance in the treasury be distributed, prorata, among the members in good standing on October 21st, 1888.

This society was organized with a membership of 74, but from the date of organization there has been practically no interest taken in its affairs by the membership at large, the administration of the society's affairs devolving entirely upon four or five of its officers.

The officers were: President, W. H. Spencer, night chief; Vice President, D. B. Grandy; Secretary, J. M. Maddox; Treasurer, R. H. Bohle, manager. These officers have left nothing undone that could have benefited the society.

The following resolutions was offered by Mr. Chas McNeill:

Whereas: The officers of this society have shown their earnest desire for the perpetuation of the organization by their faithful and loyal performance of their several duties, and their energetic and painstaking efforts for the promotion of the praiseworthy movement, therefore

Resolved: That the thanks of the members of this society be, and are, hereby tendered them with the assurance of their genuine appreciation of their great zeal and ability, which has been exhibited to the end.

Sick claims to the amount of \$130 have been paid during the six months of the society's existence.

## PERSONAL MENTION.

On the arrival of a copy of the Diary of the late Emperor of Germany, it was filed at the New York office, at 3.30 P. M., as a special to the Milwaukee *Herold*. It consisted of 20,000 words. The wires were in miserable condition, but Mr. L. N. Kirschbaum and Mr. Wangerman succeeded in putting it through to Geo. F. Sickinger and B. A. Hummel without an error. It was transmitted in the German language and the *Herold*, in a lengthy editorial, gave these gentlemen especial praise for the efficient manner in which the lengthy message was handled, in a language as difficult as that of the German.

Miss Fannie Craig, of Philadelphia, has returned from a visit to her home in Canada, and is now at the Postal main office, Third and Chestnut streets. Messrs. John E. Zechler and J. S. Ashton, late of the B. & O., are also at the same office.

W. M. Talcott, an old time telegrapher, has blossomed out into an electric motor man, agent for Vulcan line wire, and all that sort of thing, at 117 Dearborn street, Chicago.

Mrs. S. D. Shepard, twenty-five years ago, superintendent of telegraph of the district, now presided over by Mr. L. C. Baker, is now with the W. U., at Houston, Texas.

Dr. Ira C. Brown, a well-known Buffalo operator, has been nominated for Coroner, and his popularity is causing a pretty lively canvass to be made in his behalf.

Mr. S. H. Brown, formerly of New England, now dispatcher on the B. & M. R. R., Lincoln, Neb., will be delighted to hear from his old Eastern friends.

Mr. E. G. Wells, the night receiver of the Postal, Washington, D. C., is visiting relatives and friends in Syracuse, N. Y., and New York City.

Mr. F. C. Miller, of the W. U., San Francisco, has accepted a position with the Southern Pacific in the dispatcher's office, Oakland, Cal.

Mr. W. J. Kugler, at one time of the 109 State street, Boston force, is now a student at the Conservatory of Music, Boston.

Mr. F. B. Rae, lately of Chicago, has accepted a position with the Detroit Electrical Works, as electrical engineer.

Mr. S. G. St Clair, manager of the W. U. office, Consolidated Exchange, is confined to his home by sickness.

Mr. P. C. Greenwell, of the W. U., Cleveland, Ohio, is now with the Associated Press, Cleveland.

Miss Tina Hampton and Miss Armitage, of the G. N. W., have assumed situations in Buffalo.

Mr. Ed. Johnson, from Long Branch, N. J., is now at the Fifth Avenue Hotel.

J. W. Perry, better known as "Panama Perry," is in the hospital at Colorado Springs, Col., very low with consumption.

Mr. C. E. Potter, late of Detroit, Michigan, has gone to Washington, D. C., for The United Press.

Mr. M. D. Barnwell, formerly of the Postal, is with The United Press, New York Bureau.

Mr. J. J. Johnson, an old time telegrapher, is in Noyan, Que., visiting relatives.

Mr. J. O. Kerbey, of Washington, D. C., is rusticated at Wilmore, Pa.



## RAILWAY STATION AGENTS' ASSOCIATION.

The fourth annual convention of the Railway Station Agents' Association held at the Grand Pacific Hotel, Chicago on the 19th, 20th and 21st of last month, was a success, even beyond the expectations of the most sanguine member. The flattering attendance of 150 members, was made up of determined men with well defined objects, who had come to stay until their labors were fully accomplished.

The election of grand officers vouchsafes to the Association an administration of the same decisive policy as that which characterized the proceedings of the Assembly. The executive ability of President J. A. Kammerer, of Moose Jaw, N. W. T., is well known from his official influence and labors in one of the most prominent divisions. His indefatigable exertions to promote the interests of the Association at large have long made him a shining mark for the position which he assumes. His enterprise and farreaching knowledge of the principles and aims, backed by an unwavering confidence of the membership, give assurance of a wise and impartial administration. Mr. Albert Cline, First Vice President, is traveling auditor of the Pittsburg & Western Railway. His experience and conservative views well qualify him for the discharge of his responsible duties as chairman of the Executive Board. Mr. J. H. Williams, Second Vice-President, is well known for his prominent official labors in the Montana Division. His cool judgment and indispensable service in the convention marked him as a gentleman worthy of high place in the executive department. Mr. L. E. Damon, Third Vice-President, is traveling auditor of the Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe Railway, and represents one of the most enterprising divisions in the Association. His excellent business qualifications and deep concern for the welfare of the Association are evidence of the wisdom in his election. The office of Fourth Vice-President is held by one of the ablest and most respected members, Mr. W. N. White, of Tennessee. His conservative manner and wise counsel in every annual convention has given him an enviable place in the confidence and esteem of the fraternity. The election of the foregoing officers relieved unbounded suspense of the assembly, but the climax was not reached until the worthy past chief executive, Mr. L. A. Clark, was declared the unanimous choice of the convention for the office of Grand Secretary. The prominent standing of Mr. Clark in the Association and his high official connection with its past history render it unnecessary to point to his admirable qualifications for this, the most responsible, laborious and exacting position in the Association. Mr. F. G. Corley, the worthy Treasurer, is one of the leading spirits of the Kentucky Division, and a charter member of 1885. He occupies a prominent place among the most energetic members, and well deserves this honorable recognition of excellent service.—*Station Agents' Journal.*

**BASE BALL BY TELEGRAPH.**—For the benefit of the thousands who were unable to attend the games for the world base ball championship, the *Evening World*, with its usual enterprise, devised something new in the way of a bulletin board, which gave the movements of the players, the runs as they were made, and the successive "outs"

On the board, which was nine feet square, was painted a base ball quadrangle or "diamond." For each of the nine field positions there was a perforation, which was filled by red buttons when the Giants were in the field, and by blue buttons representing the St. Louis team, when the Giants were at the bat. These buttons were two and a half inches in diameter, and could easily be seen from across the street. There were two perforations on each of the three bases, the extra holes being intended for base-runners.

Thus, when the reds were in the field a blue peg on either of the bases represented a St. Louis player intent upon scoring a run, and *vice versa*. The buttons were numbered according to batting order, and it was an easy matter to tell

who the base-runner was. On either side of the board there were ruled spaces for the runs, the outs, the positions and the batting order. At the top of the board provision was made for the score by innings, the club going first to the bat being at the top. At the bottom of the board the following list shows how a player got a base, or went out:

Struck out.	Safe hit.
Fly " "	Base on balls.
Foul " "	Steal.
Assist " "	Error.
Declared out.	Balk.

As each play is made it is telegraphed over the *Evening World's* base ball wire, which is looped from the editorial rooms, where the regular report is copied, to the bulletin board, where an operator calls the plays to a young man who moves the pegs accordingly.

This is one of the simplest and best forms ever devised for a base ball bulletin, and the *Evening World* is happy in being able to give to the public an opportunity of witnessing the games free of charge.

There were entertained fully 6,000 people each day of the world's championship series.

Mr. P. J. Soaden, the well-known operator, dictated the moves. The other end of the wire was worked by Mr. E. T. Stevens at the Polo Grounds, and Messrs. T. J. Young and H. J. Edson at Brooklyn. Mr. W. A. McAllister copied the report for the paper.

**ANGLO-AMERICAN CABLES.**—We are asked, says the *London Electrical Review*, by Mr. H. Weaver, managing director of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company, to publish the following: "I beg to inform you, that the cable laid in 1869, which was broken 135 miles from St. Pierre in shallow water, on the 23rd ultimo, was successfully repaired on the 30th, by the company's ss. *Minia*. A statement having appeared in many of the London papers, to the effect that an entirely new cable could have been laid for the amount which has been expended in its repair and renewal, I should be much obliged if you will kindly correct this statement by publishing the following facts: The money expended in the repair and renewal of the Brest-St. Pierre cable laid in 1869 (during 19 years) does not amount to one-third of the capital necessary to lay a new cable, even at the present low prices, and that more than two-thirds of the entire cable has never been disturbed since the day it was laid."

## WONDERS OF ELECTRICITY.

NOVELTIES TO BE DESCRIBED AND EXHIBITED AT THE FRANKLIN INSTITUTE, PHILADELPHIA.

A stated meeting of the Franklin Institute was held on October 17th. Carl Hering described and exhibited the following novelties: Abdank's integrator, an instrument for integrating, and Abdank's magnetic call, an electric bell without a battery; Carpenter's electrical time beater for divided orchestras or choruses; Carpenter's melograph and melotrope, an instrument for electrically recording music and for reproducing the same mechanically on the piano; Serpolet's instantaneous safety steam generator, a new form of steam boiler.

**TELEPHONE FROM BUFFALO TO BOSTON.**—Telephone connection was made October 14th, between Buffalo, New York, Philadelphia, Troy and Boston, the distance to the latter being 810 miles. The test was a success. This telephone circuit is the longest in the world.

There are 3,000 female telegraph operators in England earning from \$300 to \$1,000 a year. The telegraph being a branch of the civil service in England, it is necessary for them to pass a competitive examination before employment is given them.



## A MAN OF NERVE.

A PLUCKY TELEGRAPH OPERATOR TRAPS A BAND OF TOUGHS.

John Warner sat by his telegraph table, a trifle pale, perhaps, but seemingly cool and in no way disturbed by the extraordinary situation. The stranger, who wore a wide-brimmed hat and was dressed in the rough costume of a frontiers-man, leaned over the counter, his right elbow resting on it, which enabled him to hold the heavy six-shooter without a tremble. The six-shooter "covered" Warner. The following was the conversation that ensued :

"What time does the night express pass?"

"She's due in about half an hour, but she is over an hour late."

"An hour late, eh?"

"Yes, besides she don't stop here. You'll have to go to Bloomville if you want to take the express."

"But if you telegraph to Bloomville for her to stop here she'd stop, wouldn't she?"

"No, she wouldn't."

"Hasn't she never stopped here?"

"Once or twice?"

"What made her?"

"Orders from the train dispatcher, of course."

"Where does he live?"

"Centre City."

"Well, then a message from Centre City to Bloomville must pass through this office, mustn't it?"

"Of course."

"All right. Then you could send a message from here that the Bloomville folks wouldn't know but what it came from Centre City, couldn't you?"

"I could, but I wouldn't."

"Oh, wouldn't you? Not if I asked you? Well, young man, I'll be plain with you. If you don't send just what I tell you to, I'll send a couple of bullets through you. We've torn up the tracks just around the bend, so the train 'll stop anyhow, and there'll be an eternal smash. Now we don't want to bother anybody. We just want a certain package that's in the express car. We know it's on this train. We expect to have to kill the expressmen, for there will likely be an extra man to guard that package. It's valuable, it is. If you don't stop that train you will perhaps kill fifty people and get shot yourself. If you do, the folks in the sleeping car will never know anything out of the way, and we will have the cash without any bother. Savvey?"

"I understand. Let me think a moment."

"Well, hurry up. There's no time to lose."

"Is the track torn up now, or are you going to do it if I don't stop the train?"

"The track is torn up now."

"All right. I'll stop the express."

"Now, look here, young fellow, I want you to understand this: If you try any fooling you won't catch us; you will get shot yourself. Nobody can come here, for my friend are 'round this shanty and won't let anybody near here."

"Nobody comes here anyhow, at night. Or in the daytime either, for that matter."

"All right. I want you to understand the fix you are in. We all have fast horses, and even if you brought a regiment on that train they couldn't catch us, and you would have a few bullets in you before I got on my horse."

"I understand."

"All right again. Then go ahead."

The operator put his hand on the key, but sat there thinking and did not press it.

"Now, see here; you hurry up there. I don't want any monkey business."

The operator turned so sharply around on him that the other instinctively raised his revolver a little.

"Will you oblige me by keeping your cussed mouth shut?"

"I'll start when I get ready and don't you forget it. I'm running this machine, and if you don't like it shoot and be hanged to you, and then do your own telegraphing."

"That's the way to talk," cried the desperado, with admiration. "That's business. Darned if I ever heard a man talk like that with a gun pulled on him. You go right ahead and if you do this thing square we'll whack up on the swag. It's rather tiresome standing here, so I'll just take this chair inside. I won't interfere."

"All right," said the operator, "make yourself at home."

Then he turned to the table and began telegraphing.

"Klick-a-klick, klick-a-klick, klick-a-klick, klick-a-klick," went the instrument rapidly.

"What's that?" said the desperado, forgetting his vow of noninterference of a moment before. "It seems to be all the same thing."

"It is. I am calling the office at Bloomville."

"Klick-a-klick, klick-a-klick—chuck."

"There, I've got 'em. Now don't interrupt me. I'll tell you what is said when I'm through."

The outlaw leaned forward with a puzzled expression, and doubtless wished he knew as much about telegraphing as he did about shooting.

"Is Stephens there?" asked the instrument of Bloomville. "Tell him Warner wants him."

There was a pause, and then the instrument at the lonely way station answered.

Warner rapidly rattled out the following message:

"This shanty is in the possession of a villain, who has a pistol pointed at me while I work. I expect it is the Zama county gang that is round the place. They are going to rob the express. I'm supposed to be telegraphing orders for it to stop here. Now, can't you make up a special there and get the sheriff and a strong posse to come down and gather in the gang?"

"I'll do it. There's a freight engine here now, and I'll put the boys in some box cars."

"No, don't do that. Make up a train of passengers. Put a Pullman on behind if you have it, and make it look as much like an express train as you can. Then send her down on the time of the express, and hold the No. 9 there till they get back."

"Good idea! Now what are you going to do? They'll shoot you."

"Can you make connection with the town arc light and get them to put their full current on? I'll connect it in some way with the fellow here, and he'll never know what struck him."

"We haven't time for that. We would have to go down to the dynamo office and get them to turn off all city lights and then make connections. It would take too long and would burn out every switchboard on the circuit. But I can give you all the cell currents we have here, and that will paralyze any rough from Zama and perhaps kill him. Anyhow, you could get his gun before he recovered. When you're ready call the office. Ground your current and I'll send it along on the big wire."

"Seems to take a lot of telegraphing to stop a train," said the desperado, uneasily.

"It does. You see, the train is behind time and they don't want to stop her. I told them there was a special that would pass her here. They want to know all particulars. Now I'll have to move about a bit. I must cut off the wire to Centre City. If you don't they may telegraph to the dispatcher's office about that special and then it would be all up with us."

"That's right; go ahead."

"Well, don't let that revolver go off."

"It never goes off until I tell it to and then it's sure death. As long as you act square it won't go off."

The telegrapher went to a drawer and took out a piece of wire and to one end attached a pair of scissors. The other



end he connected with the big wire from Bloomville. He fussed around the switchboard, and then took a pail of water, and said:

"Look out for your feet. I must damp down the floor, so that there will be no dust to interfere with the instruments."

"Water won't hurt anything outside of me," said the man, "I'd hate to try it inside, though."

Having wet the floor, the operator sat down to the table again. "Klick-a-lick," went the instrument. Next instant there was a flash of greenish light in the room. The man started to his feet.

"Thunder!" he cried. "What's that?"

"You struck it the first time. Thunder somewheres. I'm afraid it will interfere with us. But I can fix it. Hand me that screw-driver, quick."

The screw-driver was handed, but all the time the pistol covered him. The visitor was not a man to be taken off his guard. Warner worked with the screw-driver a moment and then said sharply: "Gimme them scissors. Hurry up."

The outlaw reached for the scissors and the next instant with a yell, he sprang toward the ceiling and fell in a heap on the floor.

"Throw up your hands, you villain?" cried Warner, pointing his own pistol at him.

The whole gang were induced to return to Bloomville with the sheriff shortly after.—*Ex.*

#### BUFFALO ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

AN INTERESTING LECTURE DELIVERED BY MR. USHER BEFORE THE BUFFALO ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.

"The Electric Motor and its Applications" was the subject of a paper read before the Electrical Society, October 16th, by G. H. Usher. A brief account of the earliest attempts to produce mechanical motion by electricity was given by the lecturer. Faraday, Barlow, Davenport, Henry and Page, were among the earliest experimentalists in this direction. The latter, in the year 1850, constructed a ten horse-power electric locomotive with which he made a trip from Washington to Bladensburg on the Baltimore & Ohio railroad, on April 29th, 1851. From an electrical standpoint this engine was a success, but in this as in all previous attempts to produce mechanical motion by electricity, the current was derived from the combustion of zinc in a battery at an enormous cost, and it was therefore commercially a failure.

In 1867 the previous discoveries and inventions of electricians in Europe and America culminated in the production of the dynamo electric machine.

This invention solved the problem of the electric light on an economical basis, and subsequently developed into the modern electric motor.

The electric motor of to-day is practically a dynamo machine reversed. The current is furnished by a dynamo driven by a steam engine at a central power station, and conveyed by a suitable conductor to the armature of another dynamo or motor, placed in the machine shop, the printing office or the street car as the case may be, causing the armature to revolve, thus setting the machinery in motion.

The matter of utilizing the enormous energy that is running to waste by our very door was touched upon by Mr. Usher. Experiments have already been made by electrical engineers, which justified the prediction that if the "Niagara River Power Company," recently organized, succeeded in "harnessing" the river, the power could be economically distributed by the use of electric motors, not only throughout the city, but over a much larger territory.

THE EMPIRE AND BAY STATE TELEGRAPH COMPANY.—This company will open its doors to the public, on November 1st, with a leased wire service to Boston and intermediate points. The facilities now consist of two copper wires, but eight

others are in course of construction. They are supposed to be the largest gauged wires ever put upon poles, measuring No. 12, Birmingham measurement. The multiplex system will be used, which will enable the company to maintain on the two wires, twelve Morse circuits or twenty-four printers.

The main operating room occupies the upper floor at 34 Broadway, where also are located the executive offices of the company. The telegraphic machinery is all new and makes an excellent appearance on the quartette tables. The personnel of the company is as follows: Major J. Byrne, president; H. Macdona, secretary; J. W. McLaren, general superintendent; Martin J. Sullivan, superintendent of construction.

There is an excellent field for the company, and it certainly opens its doors under the most favorable auspices.

#### SIGNAL AND TELEGRAPH CORPS.

AN INTERESTING EXHIBITION GIVEN AT THE RECEPTION AT BRIGADE HEADQUARTERS.

The members of the Second Brigade Signal and Telegraph Corps, of Brooklyn, N. Y., gave a reception to their gentlemen friends, Oct. 17th, in their rooms at Brigade Headquarters, in the Hall of Records. It was the first opportunity the Corps had of showing its quarters. The rooms were tastefully decorated with the apparatus, equipments and weapons of the Corps. About two hundred gentlemen were present, including Gen. James McLeer and members of his staff, Gen. Edward L. Molineux, Gen. Alfred C. Barnes, Majors Geo. R. Herbert and Howland P. Perrine, ex-signal officers, and representatives from the field, staff and line officers of the different regiments.

The Corps at the present time has a membership of twenty in command of Capt. Frederick T. Leigh, Brigade Signal Officer. The number of the Corps is limited to thirty. The members were all present in their handsome orange-trimmed uniforms.

Gen. McLeer welcomed the visitors on behalf of the Corps, and then gave a short talk on the advantages of signalling. In case, he said, of a riot in the city and the telegraph wires were cut by the mob, the Signal Corps could go to the roofs of the armories and other high buildings and receive and transmit messages with perfect correctness. In conclusion, the General paid the Brigade Corps very high compliments for the work it has already done.

Capt. Leigh gave a history of the organization of the Corps. He also spoke of the antiquity of signalling, and claimed that it was as old as war itself. It was recorded in history, he said, that the transmitting of letters of the alphabet was done in 260 B. C., and that a Grecian General named Polybius was the inventor of it. In the present day there were three methods of communication in military operations, namely, mounted couriers, electric apparatus and visual or auricular signals. The Captain then devoted some time to a description of visual signalling. He described the apparatus with which the Corps is equipped and pointed out the uses of each part. The apparatus consists of torches as well as flags.

Privates C. W. Blackburn and C. B. Baldwin gave an exhibition of signalling, using small flags. Messages dictated by Gen. McLeer and others in the audience were transmitted at the rate of nine words per minute.

A party who ascended Mount Lassen, California, recently, became electrified; the hair of their heads standing straight out, and sparks of electricity flying from the ends of their nose and fingers. The phenomenon was occasioned by an electrical storm.

The receipts of the last meeting of the New York Serial Building and Loan Institution, were \$5,139, and of this amount \$4,100 was loaned at sixty cents premium per share.



THE MAGNETIC CLUB AUTUMNAL BANQUET  
THE MOST SUCCESSFUL YET HELD.

The Magnetic Club held its autumnal meeting at Martinelli's restaurant, Fifth avenue, October 18 which proved to be the most enjoyable and successful ever held by the club. The following well-known telegraphic people were found to be seated around the table at the dinner-hour, 6:30 P. M.:

W. J. Dealy, Chairman.

Chas. A. Tinker,	Chas. P. Bruch,
W. C. Humstone,	T. P. Scully,
W. J. Johnston,	J. B. Taltavall,
Jos. Wetzler,	G. E. Holbrook,
J. H. Montgomery,	J. L. Edwards,
Terence Conaty,	J. K. Calvert,
Marston E. Cockey,	Jos. Knittle,
E. C. Cockey,	E. F. Cummings,
W. B. Brown,	T. A. Brooks,
W. H. Baker,	W. H. Moffett,
A. Fagan,	W. E. Huntington,
W. C. Burton,	J. J. Barry,
M. J. Dixon,	J. T. Stephenson,
G. F. Fagan,	W. L. Brant,
Geo. Roehm,	A. F. Hurd,
Thomas A. Ballantyne,	M. H. Toomey,
J. M. Moffatt,	W. A. Hennessy,
T. R. Betzel,	Martin Durivan,
Gardner Irving,	H. A. Moody,
R. J. Hutchinson,	E. E. Brannin,
R. L. Bamford,	C. J. Lawson,
A. G. Hummell,	W. L. Ives,
J. C. Van Cura,	John Brant,
A. F. Louer,	E. M. Tomlinson,
L. S. Jones,	D. W. McAneeny,
T. E. Fleming,	E. F. Stevens,
P. J. Casey,	J. H. Fleming,
M. J. O'Leary,	George K. Walcott,
H. L. Nichols,	W. G. Magowan,
E. F. Howell,	J. E. Miller,
R. G. Stephenson,	W. J. Elsen,

D. C. Donohue.

Prayer was offered by Mr. T. P. Scully.

The following menu was then favorably passed upon:

HORS D'ŒUVRES.  
Olives. Celery. Gressini.

HUITRES.  
Blue Points on half shell.

SOUP.  
Consomme aux pates.

POISSON.  
Broiled Bluefish a la maitre d'hotel.  
Pommes Espagnoles.

ENTREES.  
Filet de Boeuf pique aux champignons.  
Croquettes de Ris de Veau aux petit pois.

ROMAN PUNCH.

ROTI.  
Philadelphia Chicken.  
Laitue.

DESSERT.  
Glaces de Fantaisie. Fruits Assortis.  
Cafe.

The chairman, Mr. W. J. Dealy, then delivered an excellent and felicitous address of welcome to all. His remarks were attentively listened to and heartily applauded. He said: "Gentlemen, '73,' I now file the only complaint that

will be made this meeting; when I was assigned to this position, I appealed to the chief, and without any desire whatever to shirk, begged for another trick, but he wouldn't relieve me. Every observer of the signals at this table will agree with me that the indications are favorable for harmony, pleasure and success. I hope you have all enjoyed the good things served us by Mr. Martinelli, particularly the roast. It seems to be unnecessary to dwell upon the purposes for which we are organized. Look around you. Flashing from the mirrors of our minds, and reflected as it were in dots and dashes, are characters that have held us together since boyhood. To-night, as we have often done before, we read them, and switching to the recorder, we find no trace of fault. Every line is clear. We work in unison. Let us continue to do so, and if at times we are inclined to be positive in our own views, minute, wait—perhaps the negative side may have the sounder argument. Let this dinner be an instrument to make permanent the good begun on our trip from the Battery. We have the Catlin grip on the key to sociability; now, go ahead; ring up your neighbor, whether he be near or at long distance. Respond to every cheery impulse. Vibrate the cords of sympathy. Connect the coils of friendship. Register your good will as well as your cable address, and if duty calls from station to station, or from pole to pole, repeat at every relay.

We live in *The Electrical World*; we move in THE ELECTRIC AGE; we are all *Electric Lights*, and yet we are modest men, not ambitious for the depths of the earth, but quite satisfied with its surface; and the more we get of that, the better we like it. No phonograph is needed to reproduce the proceedings of our meetings. They are in themselves an *Electrical Review*. We need these meetings to take us away from the interruptions, the crosses and the troubles of the day; and I trust that none of the current of the thoughts with which I am endeavoring to charge you, shall escape unless it be to induce others to come within our social fraternal circuit. We are, it is true, at present limited in membership, and we never break; but if rushed we can double up, and we will; we must, because we are an attractive force, and in combination we are The Magnetic Club."

Mr. Charles A. Tinker was then called upon by the chairman, and he responded with a very happy speech. From his observation, the error department was the only one not represented around the table. Mr. Tinker then related how he met Mr. Abraham Lincoln away back in the fifties, while he had charge of the telegraph office at Pekin, Ill. Old Abe Lincoln, as he was called, one day in the Spring of '57 spent an hour or two in Mr. Tinker's office, for the purpose of learning all he could concerning the telegraph. He examined the office, from the switchboard to the local battery. Afterwards Mr. Tinker was in the Chicago Convention when old Abe Lincoln was nominated. In 1862 he was cipher operator in the War Department at Washington, when, one night, President Lincoln became aware of the fact that Mr. Tinker was the operator at Pekin who had given him the information regarding the telegraph. President Lincoln was always a great friend of the telegraphers, and every evening passed an hour or two in the telegraph office in the War Department, telling stories while awaiting dispatches.

Mr. W. J. Elsen then rendered a piano solo.

Mr. W. C. Humstone made a few humorous remarks in relation to the period when he carried messages. It was in one of the interior towns of the State, where autograph fiends paid him fifty cents for every signature of Professor Morse he could secure. He was consequently very fond of the professor, and loved his autographs for the profit there was in them, for the messenger boy. Mr. Humstone praised the founders of the club and wished it every prosperity.

Mr. D. W. McAneeny then favored the attendants with a beautifully rendered song. In response to a flattering



encore, Mr. Miller assisted Mr. McAneeney in a duet, which was much appreciated.

Mr. W. J. Johnson was the next speaker. He gave his first experience as an operator.

Mr. A. R. Hurd then rendered a song which was heartily applauded.

Mr. Thomas A. Ballantyne gave some of his humorous recitations.

Mr. George K. Walcott sang "The Sword of Banker Hill" in an able manner.

Mr. W. L. Ives, better known as the Senator, recited a poem, which was received with much appreciation:

Mr. J. B. Taltavall told of the prosperity of the New York and other telegraphers.

Mr. W. C. Burton gave a recitation, with pleasing effect.

Mr. E. F. Howell made a few interesting remarks as to the past and future of the organizations.

Chairman Dealy then surrendered his position to the President of the Club, Mr. Charles P. Bruch, who gave expression to his feeling that this was the most successful of the meetings so far held, and he accepted on the part of the club the many kind utterances for the future prosperity of the club.

At this point the company rose, joined hands, and sang "Auld Lang Syne," after which the party dispersed.

NEW YORK TELEGRAPHERS' BALL.—The telegraphers of this city, held their annual gathering at Turn Hall, October 15th.

There were nearly one thousand persons present; most of whom arrived in time to enjoy the presentation of the romantic drama, "Kathleen," under the direction of Mr. M. J. Dixon.

The following are the telegraph people who took part in the drama: J. C. VanCura, A. Cutair, W. A. Hennessy, J. W. Doyle, T. Kinsella and Margaret Flynn.

After the entertainment was concluded, the orchestra played the grand march which was led by J. C. VanCura and Miss Muller. A well-selected order of dances wound up the merry-making.

Among those present were: Wallace Grant and wife, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Ford, J. C. VanCura, Chas. B. Obst and Miss VanCura, Henry Fritch, Miss Mary Fritch, D. Hensworth, Miss A. Hensworth, Mrs. A. Hensworth, Fred Smith, J. P. Tollman, Miss Ida Edwards, Miss Kittie Clark, James K. Sloat, Jr., Miss Maggie Daw, A. K. Atherton, Miss Kitty Adderly, Miss M. Halpin, Mr. Roberts, F. P. Newman, Miss Mamie Newman, Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. Soaden, Peter Doring, Miss Williams, W. C. Jesty and Miss Mamie Campbell, H. Elliott, D. W. McAneeney, J. H. Hutchinson and wife, Miss Mamie Dougherty, Miss Robinson, George Baker, P. Irish, R. C. Edwards, Mr. Pike, Miss Emma Muller, Miss Harry Pearson, M. Dutcher, John Stacom, Miss M. Corby, Miss Lizzie Leahey, Miss Katie Leahey, William Leahey, Miss Adams, Gisborne Ward, Miss Stevenson, Oliver Robertson, Miss Frazier, J. T. Collins, Arthur Carey, John E. Healey, Miss Jennie Smith, Geo. A. Finn, Miss Mamie Levine, Frank Finn, Miss Emily Finn, Miss Rosie Uth, William Bigley, Miss Emma Milland, Robert McLaughlin, Miss Clara Forrester, Miss Lena Knodell, Miss Margaret Flynn, John W. Doyle, Miss M. Dalley, Mr. and Mrs. Harry DuSouchet, Miss Randolph, John Doyle, William T. Doyle, Miss Mamie Hyland, Litz Taylor and wife, Miss Kittie Taylor, J. W. Smith, Miss Edith Doherty, F. J. Kihm, E. H. Lane, M. F. O'Brien, Max Green, Henry Heritage, H. A. Moody, M. Dutcher, T. J. Kinsella, Samuel Jolly, Frank English, C. Cunningham, W. C. Ward, E. Doyle, William E. Yackly, W. C. Cherry, J. J. Daly, T. J. Floyd, T. Dowling, J. Dolan, C. E. Chase, W. W. Walsh, J. J. Gaffney, R. C. McDonald, Clarina Cross, F. A. Blanks, F. T. Meyer and wife, W. J. VanSlyke, Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Hennessy.

## MANAGER BLACK GOES TO JAIL.

A WYOMING JUDGE WILL TEST THE POWER OF THE WESTERN UNION TELEGRAPH COMPANY.

In the District Court of Albany, Wyoming, Manager Black, of the Western Union, was fined \$100 and committed to jail for twenty-four hours for failure to produce certain telegrams as directed by the Judge. Mr. Black, as manager of the Western Union, was commanded to produce all the telegrams that had passed between Edward J. Magners and his brother as a result of a suit by the creditors of the former, but upon the advice of Superintendent Dickey, Black refused to do so. Mr. Dickey telegraphed Black to stand firm, as the company proposed making a test case of it. In committing Black, Judge Saufley said: "We will see which has the greater power, the Western Union Telegraph Company or the Congress of the United States."

A romantic wedding soon to occur is that of Miss Jessie Schofield, a Western Union operator, in Philadelphia, and Mr. Thomas Knight, a wealthy young man from Baltimore. They met at Atlantic City last summer, where Mr. Knight saved the young lady's life while she was being carried out to sea by the surf.

The report of the legislative committee of the Knights of Labor for the Fiftieth Congress, is before us in pamphlet form. That portion which relates to postal telegraphy shows very plainly that the committee in its action and suggestions was guided by some person or persons thoroughly posted in the telegraph business in an official capacity. The report gives a practically correct statement of estimates for line construction and says: "The best method of convincing persons of the feasibility of constructing a great public work is, first, to lay down before them a plan that shall be plain, simple and comprehensive, so that the mind will at once be able to grasp the idea at a glance. This the National Legislative Committee of the Knights of Labor undertake to do in issuing this pamphlet, to explain their bill to establish governmental telegraphic system in connection with the postal department of the United States, known as H. R. No. 7075, that was introduced by Rep. Henry Smith of Wisconsin. The map which accompanies this will give the reader at a glance an idea of the territory that it is intended to cover by this proposed system. The plan, as laid down on the map, will provide four trunk lines by different routes between the East and West. The estimates of the cost of construction submitted are made by members of a Telegraphers' branch of the Knights of Labor, men who are experts in every branch of the telegraphic system of the country, and we print them as a matter of pride, and with the satisfaction that their correctness cannot be successfully contradicted."

THE FRENCH TELEGRAPH SYSTEM.—M. Cael, the Directing Engineer of French Telegraphs, has recently submitted to the Administration of Posts and Telegraphs a report upon the speeds of transmission obtained from the various instruments in use on the French telegraph system. The high-speed appliances consist chiefly of the Wheatstone, the Hughes, and the Baudot instruments. The average speed per minute per *employe* has been found to be on the Hughes 8 words, on the Baudot 11.2 words, and on the Wheatstone 13.3 words. The quadruplex Baudot is preferred to the other instruments since it is faster than the Hughes, and has the advantage over the Wheatstone in that it prints the signals in Roman characters.

THE CATLIN GRIP.—Send ten cents to the ELECTRIC AGE, 5 Dey street, New York, and secure a copy of the picture "THE VICTOR KEY AND CATLIN GRIP," which is especially printed for framing. The picture will make an elegant and instructive ornament in any telegraph office. A large number have already been sold for this purpose. It is the cheapest and most suggestive telegraph picture on the market. Send for a copy, only ten cents.



BOSTON W. U. NOTES.—Arrivals—Jos. Coulliard, New York City; Joseph A. Tew, formerly of this city, Rutland, Vt. Departures—J. E. Otto, New York; Geo. H. Hayward, White River Junction; Miss Blanch Reed, of the city department, to a pool-room. A. H. Pratt has been transferred to regular night force, vice Fuller, resigned; Geo. H. James to W. R. Junction duplex, vice Pratt; J. F. Sheehan, from City Lines to Nashua and way, vice James; Jos. A. Tew assigned to split trick in Mr. G. H. Thompson's place, the latter having resigned. J. A. McGlinchy and Jack Flynn have exchanged tricks. "Mac" is now doing the "hustle" on the N. E. Press wire nights. Tom Devine is back on the all-night force, having exchanged tricks with Mr. P. H. Ferriter. Mr. E. L. Marsh, after a week's siege of hay fever, is on duty again. D. M. F. Pontin and John Connors, of the St. John quad, will shortly go into the wilds of Maine on a shooting trip. Mr. Sam. Wagner, of the 1 to 8:30 force, has been suddenly called away by the death of his father at Claremont, N. H. Mr. S. F. Shirley has been appointed on the regular night force. Assistant Chief Lyman is spending his vacation in New York and vicinity. Messrs. Pond and Knowlton are alternating days in his place. Mr. Peter Van Allen has returned from Bar Harbor, where he has spent the summer as manager of the W. U. He relieves Mr. J. A. Dougher, of the leased quads, who goes on a much needed vacation for a few weeks. Mr. T. J. Clifford, of the leased quads, has resigned to go with a broker. Mr. H. F. Wood has been assigned to the third New York quad, vice Mr. Tom O'Leary. The familiar face of Mr. Geo. Thomas, a member of the force here some years ago, is frequently seen in the operating room. He is one of the many broker operators who "help out" afternoons and evenings. Mr. Geo. Towne has returned from Clinton, Mass., and is working a split trick. Mr. Al. Patterson tells a good story about a certain member of the night force who had been working the greater part of the day, having been ordered on for extra duty and naturally felt sleepy. About midnight he was snatched by Chief Knowlton and put on a Chicago *Tribune* wire to send a long special. He sent all right for ten or fifteen minutes, when suddenly Mr. Patterson heard the *Tribune* struggling to "break," but without success. "Pat" went over and found the sender fast asleep. He woke him up with difficulty, and ascertained that he had been repeating "not guilty" over and over again. There were no such words in the special, but were evidently running through his brain when he had fallen asleep. The funny part of it is the gentleman swears he was never before a court of justice in his life, and there is no reason to doubt his word.

PHILADELPHIA NOTES.—The success of the Postal Co. in this city proves to a certainty that there is room for a competing line with the great monopoly, and this enterprising opposition under the able direction of Superintendent Adams, has endeavored to show, and with no small degree of success, that it is to the interest of the business men to support such legitimate competition. Mr. Geo. W. Glenn, our genial cashier, who occupies quarters in the Superintendent's office, gladdens our hearts, twice each month regularly. The main office is in charge of Mr. Clarence A. Stimpson. Mr. Geo. W. Dunn is traffic manager and Harry Hughe, night manager. They are all very popular. Operators: Miss Killion, Miss Koch, Miss Craig, and Mrs. Dickel; Messrs. McNichol, Williams, Ashton, Irwin, Daly, M. Dunn, Higo, Mellon, Stephens, MacIntyre, Miller, Keegan, Kearns, Zecher, Harrison, and the well known old timers William Jones and W. H. Pusey. The force at this office in point of talent is the equal of any office of a like number. Mr. Edward Brylawski has returned to duty, after an absence of eight weeks sickness with typhoid fever. He was at one time very near the portals of the grim monster, but eventually won the race. Miss Sallie Kellion is back from a month's vacation, looking

as if her respite from service had been thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Todd, the efficient all night Chief, plainly shows in his dignified mien that he feels the responsibility of a newly made Benedict. Mr. W. L. Stanger is the manager of the sugar district, and handles a large volume of business. Mr. Stanger has the reputation of being a "hustler" from the word go. He is a most agreeable gentleman, and deserves the success which attends his efforts. The American District Co. opened their new branch office at 108 So. 8th St. for business on Oct. 14th. The new quarters are very handsomely fitted up with incandescent lamps, entire new plant, etc; and is a model of its kind. Mr. John M. Snyder is the manager with officers Williams, Waterfield, Leamy and Ward, and operators Walter Houghtaling and Harry M. Given. In my next, I will have something to say concerning the Western Union force, the Aid and Electrical Societies.

LINCOLN, NEB., NOTES.—The Burlington and Missouri River dispatchers in this city, probably handle more mileage than is handled from any other one office in the land. The road operated covers an area of 1,790 miles and is presided over by the following gentlemen: Northern Division, 920 miles, Mr. Charles A. Wickersham, chief dispatcher; O. M. Thompson and W. P. Bruce, the latter assisted by U. G. Powell, 8 A. M. to 4 P. M.; C. L. Eaton, 12 M. to 8 P. M.; E. M. Dennies, 4 P. M. to midnight; S. H. Brown, of Boston, midnight to 8 A. M.; Major C. P. Johnson works the split trick, 8 A. M. to midnight and 4 to 8 A. M. Southern Division, 875 miles, Mr. H. B. Ware, chief dispatcher; J. O. Kier and B. Mann, first trick; G. W. Tresler and R. G. Knowles, second trick and Col. A. C. Jones, assisted by Mr. Seiver, last trick; Mr. C. D. Mullen, formerly dispatcher Northern Pacific, is now private secretary to Superintendent D. E. Thompson, here; Mr. J. W. Hyndman, one of the best dispatchers in the business, left here recently to accept a chiefship in Texas. His departure was regretted by all; all of the above dispatchers are first-class, and a more genial lot of men, it would be hard to find. Although the work very frequently, in the vernacular of the office causes a "head-foam," the men retain a firm grip on their equilibrium and never lose their temper. The force in the general office consists of the following excellent operators: T. McAlpine, C. H. Cutter, S. J. Dennis, Ed. Garrons, chief clerk to C. A. Wickersham; Geo. Cansler, E. L. Brown, D. E. Considine, night chief C. E. MaLette, W. C. Camp and R. B. Wilson. The yard office is presided over by F. H. Straub, days, and Messrs W. M. Dennis and H. W. Sheridan, nights; Willie Manchester is the coming operator; Messrs. R. T. Cunningham and Ike Sharpé are employed on the night force. Lincoln is a fine city and the boys here are all apparently satisfied.

NEW ORLEANS, NOTES.—At 12.45 A. M., October the 9th, there was a wave of sorrow swept over the boys on duty at that hour, when the ever alert telephone whispered these solemn words: "Benjamin C. Higdon is dead." There was a simultaneous "Bk" on every wire then working, and a united moan of deep regret. And well might we mourn for a heart so true, a soul so brave. To those who have come in contact with the deceased, in the daily walks of life; more, been subservient to his discipline, the name of Ben C. Higdon cannot but occupy a tender and loved spot in their hearts. Possessors of such noble instincts, generous impulses and admirable traits of character, are not to be met with every day. We will miss our honored chief more than words can express. No words are more applicable for his epitaph than those beautiful lines of Caesar

"His life was gentle, and the elements so mixed up in him, that nature might stand out and say to all the world, 'This was a man.'" Upon the day following the death of Mr. Higdon, the switchboard and front balcony of the W. U. office was tastefully draped in mourning. The brothers of the deceased, Messrs. Sam and Charles Higdon, arrived



here from Cincinnati, October 11th, when the funeral ceremony took place from his late residence, No. 438 Baronne street. Messrs. Charles Haight, George Baptist, Sidney St. Clair, Al. W. Cain, H. F. Farmer and Frank T. Barnes acting as pall bearers. The floral decorations were elaborate, and emblematic of his life-long profession.

As yet, there has been no definite arrangement made as to the appointment of a successor for Mr. Higdon. Mr. Al. Cain is now acting in the capacity of night chief, until some permanent arrangement is made.

AUGUSTA, GA. NOTES.—We are just recovering from the effects of the memorable freshet that swept over our city on the 10th and 11th of September, which completely demolished all wires and flooded the office for two days. Chief Operator Brown deserves much credit for the prompt and efficient manner in which he effected the restoration of wires. It was no small undertaking, but he set to work in that sure and rapid way, which is a characteristic of the man, and soon had a score of overhead wires to the submerged tables; and things were in working order again. We all feel proud of him. Mr. L. J. Maxwell, formerly, the able and popular manager of the "Southern" at this point, and late of our operating force, has been appointed to the managership at Savannah, vice Mr. J. P. Merrihew, resigned. We disliked very much indeed to give Mr. Maxwell up on account of his genial nature and proficiency as an operator, but we rejoice at his success, and feel confident he will render the company creditable service in his new field of labor. He has the best wishes of every member of the force here. The late arrivals are: T. P. Godfrey, Charleston; Hancock, New Orleans; J. N. Johnson, J. F. Wessinger, C. W. Bland, G. E. Hines, J. T. O'Neill, Washington, D. C.; Mr. Robinson, Mr. Smith, Chicago; Mr. Wright and J. A. Best, Mr. T. D. Jackson, is doing good service on the Washington duplex, and Mr. Stephens on Savannah. The work has been very heavy, but has somewhat decreased the last few days.

TORONTO NOTES.—Mr. Erastus Wiman of New York, president of the Great Northwestern Company, passed through this city a few days since en route to Trade Lake, Muskoka, where he will spend a month hunting. The Toronto *World* suggests the burial of all wires, light, telephone, telegraph and fire alarm, jointly in the conduit system. The staff of the operating department of the Canadian Pacific here is as follows;

F. C. Robertson, chief and district circuit manager.	
J. D. Smith, traffic chief,	
H. J. M. Wilson, night chief.	
Mrs. Madden,	Miss Wynn,
Miss Smith	Miss Thorley,
Ed. McSweeney,	J. Collie,
H. Lillie,	C. Graham,
V. Barber,	R. L. Stiver,
Geo. Carlisle,	R. B. Green,
G. Grinton,	M. Cummings,
R. Stewart,	E. E. Piercy,
J. Strachan,	N. Budge,

W. J. Anderson.

Miss Alice Thorley has returned from a month's vacation, much improved in health.

SYRACUSE NOTES.—Mr. W. E. Huntington, of New York, was in town a few days since. W. J. McLaughlin and C. M. Rose are recent arrivals. Geo. H. Drown has left for Toledo, Ohio. Miss Ella Landon, recently with the Postal, this city, is now with the same company at Rochester. H. W. Cleveland is working nights for the Postal.

The following telegram was sent to J. F. Dunn of Ocala, Fla., who is now in New York, on the report that he had been killed by a runaway horse: "Reports say you are dead. Is it true?"

TAPPING WIRES.—Since Congress prohibited the bookmakers from carrying on their business within the District of Columbia, a number of them have established pool-rooms just beyond the boundary, where they now carry on a thriving trade. On October 18, however, they were neatly swindled out of about \$1,000 by two blacklegs, who tapped the wire connecting the rooms with the Guttenburg race track. The wire was tapped, the bookmakers say, just before the last race was to come off. The heavy betters were staking money on the favorites, but just before the result of the race was announced there was a rush for Joe Mitchell, and everybody seemed anxious to put up money.

Considerable was accepted by the bookmakers, who were somewhat uneasy because the horses were so long in getting off. Finally the telegraph instrument ticked off the words, "They're off," and before the horses could have gone a hundred yards the message came: "Joe Mitchell first, Una B. second, Little Micky third." The brief interval excited the suspicions of the bookmakers, but all bets were promptly paid.

After the races were over some men interested in the pool business started out on a tour of inspection. They discovered where the wire had been tapped. It ran through a chimney to an unoccupied house which was rented a few days ago by two men. The batteries and instruments were still in the house, and a watch being set, one of the men, Edward Collins, said to be a New York crook, was captured by the police. He was locked up, but was subsequently released, there being no law to punish tampering with wires not owned or controlled by the government.

SERIAL BUILDING, LOAN AND SAVINGS INSTITUTION.—When Messrs E. F. Howell and J. B. Sabine, of the 195 Broadway force, about four years ago, began agitating the question of the organization of a Building, Loan and Savings Institution among the members of the telegraph profession in New York, they little anticipated that their efforts would result so fruitfully as they certainly have. This organization has developed into a mighty agency for good within the past three years. From the smallest possible beginning it has grown to such proportions that now the receipts of a single meeting are over \$5,000. Within the past three years the telegraphers of New York have invested about \$100,000 of their earnings in loans on real estate, and the property in a majority, if not in all cases, is held by telegraphers. Many men who had saved nothing before, have accumulated several hundred dollars through this institution, some reaching into the thousands. Those who are in the society as investors are receiving fully 8 per cent. interest on their deposits, which is a very high rate of interest. The loans, consisting of \$100,000, are divided among sixty-five borrowers, who paid a fair premium for the money. It seems beyond belief that so much good could accrue from a single institution of this kind.

The future of this society certainly indicates that within a very few years the members of the profession, who desire homes of their own, can have them upon easy payments. This, in cities like New York, Brooklyn and Jersey City, appears incredible, but it is true nevertheless, and the best proof obtained is the fact that fully fifty New York operators are to day living in houses of their own, secured through this society. Five years ago the idea of purchasing homes never once occurred to an operator, and but one or two of the entire force at that time could lay claim to real estate. That has now all been changed, and if an operator desires to become a landlord, he can do so without trouble or much expense. Very recently one of the members bought a house in Brooklyn through the society. He then rented the place. The rent received covers the monthly dues. Consequently he is gradually becoming the possessor of a desirable and valuable piece of property without costing him anything. Every telegrapher in New York can do the same thing if he pleases to do so.



TOLEDO, OHIO, NOTES.—Arrivals: J. Q. Anderson from Springfield, Ills.; Mr. Drowne from Syracuse, N. Y.; H. G. Montgomery from Baltimore; J. H. Herrick from the South, and Pincombe from Buffalo. Departures: George Wittle to Butte City, for W. U.; James Gilroy to Bismarck, Dak., for Northern Pacific; C. S. Mitchell to Helena, Mont., for the Northern Pacific; W. C. Norton to a local railroad.

ST. PAUL NOTES.—Mr. Frank Woodworth, an old employe of St. Paul, was married a short time since, and has left us to take a more lucrative position on the Missouri Valley road, as agent at Dodge, Neb. Miss Matie Ferry, also a well-known St. Paul operator, has left to take a position as operator in the office of the superintendent of the Missouri Pacific at Wichita, Kansas. Miss Lillian Brown, after a sojourn of six weeks at Omaha, has returned to St. Paul. Milton Garges, of the Associated Press, is spending his vacation at his home, Findlay, Ohio. Fred Anderson, of the *Pioneer Press*, relieves him; the latter's place being filled by Mr. W. H. Billings, of the W. U. main office. A. A. Tyler has accepted a position with the Associated Press at Spokane Falls, W. T. O. M. Mitchell, of The United Press, has gone with the Northern Pacific railroad, and is manager at Helena, Mont. His place at the *Globe* is ably filled by Mr. Fred Holden. The jovial Barney Kelly is here working for the Northern Pacific. Not a little surprise was served on E. Cadwalder, of the North American, recently, occasioned by a letter informing him of the death of a relative in Cleveland, whose will bequeathed him an estate and \$10,000. Through the efforts of Mr. Cullen, the St. Paul operators responded generously to the call for aid for the yellow fever sufferers, a neat little sum being realized. Mr. Harry Collins has returned from Helena and is now with The United Press; C. H. Kelly, chief operator, is enjoying a vacation; also F. M. Moore, R. C. Hubbard and Miss Etta Hollister; Mr. Dick Benton, our amiable day traffic chief, has returned from a three week's vacation, looking much improved; also J. E. Fitzgerald, from a hunting expedition. Among the late arrivals are: Mr. Dan Lysaght, Chicago; Mr. Jim Green, Chicago; Mr. Bohannon, Chicago; E. Cranley, Chicago; E. A. Brown, Portland, Or.; Ed. Goodwin; Heron, Montana. Departures: Mr. Tyler, Spokane Falls, W. T.; W. A. Hancock, Cleveland, O. The day force consists of C. H. Kelly, chief operator; N. McIntire, quad. chief; R. C. Benton, day traffic chief; A. J. Willard, wire chief; operators W. L. Cullen, C. F. Corsor, John North, A. P. Dapron, A. B. VanBergen, E. Cranley, J. E. Fitzgerald, Dan Lysaght, Joe F. Jackson, F. W. Blanco, Tom Brennan, Billy Brennan, Lou Wise, F. Schram, F. M. Moore, Chas. Goodwin, Ed. Goodwin, A. W. Vanderhoof, M. H. Kiernan, F. B. Lester, E. T. Richter, W. H. Billings, C. H. Ward, E. E. Taylor, J. H. Bench, Jas. Collins, T. Morris, C. C. Smallwood, P. R. Knaak, C. M. Oliver, F. J. Barnhart, C. R. Hubbard, Miss Lillian Brown, Miss Anna McCauley, Miss Hannah Crowley, Miss L. A. Cary, Miss Etta C. Devault, Miss Etta Hollister, Miss Joe F. Jackson. Night force: A. J. Cummings, night chief; E. G. McConnell, assistant chief; J. H. Knowl, all night chief; operators, D. L. Wilson, C. E. Thompson, E. A. Browne, Mr. Bohannon, J. O. Byrnes, G. G. Cooper, F. X. Dwenwald, Ben F. Wright, J. S. Knapp, A. W. Copp, Jas. Coleman, H. W. Avery, J. E. Bell, J. J. Cronan, W. T. Plummer, Jack Darach, J. Dempsey, N. L. Frank, W. Smith, A. D. Fowler, James Anderson. C. N. D. and ticker department: J. Y. Reeves, C. H. Kemper, W. H. Kemper, J. T. Hushen. Windsor Hotel, J. Lysaght; Ryan Hotel, Miss Tress McCauley; West St. Paul, Miss A. Schroeder; "X" office, Mr. Taylor. At the North American office, W. Hendy is manager; S. A. Purtell, chief operator; operators, J. Gibbons, days, and Mr. E. Cadwalder, nights.

DETROIT NOTES.—It is not often that the readers of the *AGE* hear from "The City of the Straits," and for the benefit of those who may be in doubt, I would say "we are not

dead; but sleeping." Not many changes occur here, nor much of interest, probably, to the fraternity at large. Under Mr. C. Corbett, assistant superintendent and manager, Mr. M. S. Corbett, assistant manager and chief operator, has entire charge of the operating department, assisted by Mr. E. J. Littlefield, wire, and Ed. Corbett, traffic chiefs, with Geo. Edmund as relief and Sunday chief; A. L. Danforth, night chief, assisted by Charlie Elster; John McArdle is the all night chief, and his usual battered appearance at 8 A. M., denotes anything but happy dreams; on the day force, W. H. Sparling works Cincinnati; S. L. Harroun, Buffalo; Charlie Avery, New York; Messrs. Booth and Beach, Chicago; and Miss Carrie Boothroyd, Toledo. The way wires, and some of them are as hot as an August morning, are manipulated by the following: Misses McGee, Driscoll, Dane, Shannon and Hurst; Messrs. Kennedy, Richardson, Reed, Dolson, Hamilton, Sullivan, Mulcahy, Burghart, Thompson and Powers. On the 9 A. M. and 5 P. M. split trick are: Messrs. Riley, Nelson, Donovan, Walker, Burns, McDonald, Fair, Forbes, Houlehan and Miss Jessie Ellis. On straight nights are: Messrs. Cuppage, Carroll, Singleton, Henry, Carter, Finn, Chisholm, Cruice, Connolly, Smith, Lowther, Hancock and Lee; Orin Davis, 12 to 8 A. M. trick. At the Board of Trade office, W. W. Umsted manager, with Andy Beaubien assistant; and operators Matthews, Dunphy, O'Neill, Risdon, McArdle, Malone and Dorman. Among the recent arrivals are: Mr. N. B. Booth and Miss Hurst, Chicago. Departures: Messrs. Maynard and McMicking to New Orleans; R. J. McMillan, Chicago; Jim Houlehan is also a recent arrival, this being his first work at the key in five years. He remarks that "Its just the same old song as of yore."

BALTIMORE NOTES.—During the Pimlico races the W. U. was represented by J. H. Church, C. E. Clagett, Alfred Gentry, Wm. A. Lenz and Samuel Conner. Mr. J. R. Fletcher of Virginia, late of Jersey City, is now a student of the Medical College of this city, and during his leisure time, keeps in telegraph practice by working extra at night. In the broker district Mr. F. A. Grasty is manager, assisted by Messrs. Lewis T. Bennett, John Charles, F. F. Basye, Harry C. Martin, Harry V. Johnston. Mr. Samuel T. Shutt is manager of the oyster and fish district, assisted by L. F. Levy; also during the rush by W. D. McGowan, of the main office. At Locust Point we find Virgil G. Hudgins; at the stock exchange, G. A. Hossbach; at 9½ N. Eutaw street, the main office of the A. D. T. Co., General Manager, J. B. Yeakle; Chief Operator, C. M. Burger; C. Bonnison, days; W. Staylor, nights; at 209 Richmond street, M. J. Dean, days; Ralph Lyons, nights; Edmondson avenue and Carey street, W. L. Milbourne, days; A. Staylor, nights; Madison avenue and St. Mary's street, J. Kohler, days; Thos. Maughn, nights; St. James' Hotel, J. A. Greenwell, days; John C. Doughty, nights; 308 S. Broadway, H. Tamm, days; F. Siegman, nights; Boundary avenue and Charles street, Wm. Denny, days; Oliver Kirwin, nights. Mr. Thomas Callum, after a two months leave of absence, is once more seen at the quotation board in the Chamber of Commerce. He was represented during his absence by Mr. J. H. Church. On October 16th a pleasant surprise party was tendered to Mr. and Mrs. Geo. H. Wilbourne by several of the operators and their friends.

A traveller in Brazil writes to a horticultural paper telling of the crop of mistletoe that he found growing on telegraph wires near Rio Janeiro. When he first saw it he thought that floods had left weeds hanging to the wires, but a nearer inspection and the height of the wires convinced him that the apparent weeds were thousands of little mistletoes firmly fixed to the wires. Many species of this plant grow in Brazil, and some, called "bird weeds," bear berries which are eaten by birds. The seeds are deposited on the telegraph wires, and take root. They are short lived, of course, but the constant deposit of seed, clothes the wires with this curious fringe.



WESTERN UNION NOTES.—Paul Sheehan, the well-known wire chief on the 1 to 8 A. M. force, wears a broad guage smile, because of the arrival at his home of a little son, who like his father has come we hope to stay. Messrs. Ivey and Tracy have resigned. The former goes to Birmingham, Ala.; the latter to New Orleans. Ham Fitchett, called upon to mourn the loss of another near and dear relative, has just returned from the funeral of his brother-in-law, whose death occurred a few days ago at Poughkeepsie. The race department is henceforth to be known as the race bureau. It is one of the most important branches in the service, and the profits it yields yearly are enormous. More than 9,000 messages have been handled therein in a single day, and as many more could have received the same proper attention had they been filed. The bureau is presided over by the well-known Chief Operator, David B. Mitchell, ably assisted by J. A. Steinmetz, who together with D. Harmon, G. W. Patterson and H. W. Dutcher, constitute the regular day force. At 12 P. M. Messrs. Stewart, Buxton, Fryer, McCutcheon, Heritage, O'Malley, Schram, Giles, Wedin, Gavigan, Flood, Adlum, Healy, Gaffney and Dean come on, and if there is a finer force of telegraphers in the land we would like to have them trot across the green carpet for inspection; Mr. Burton, book-keeper; J. J. Ahern, Thomas Cleary and A. O'Connor checks, comprise the entire force of the bureau, with the single exception of Frank Smith who is the presiding officer at night. Chief Operator McAllister spent two weeks at Stuyvesant, N. Y., returning in the best of health and spirits. The many friends of Mr. David Christy will regret to learn that he has been stricken with partial paralysis on the right side of the face. Mr. Keith, assistant chief operator in the City Department who for several weeks past has been a sufferer from tonsalitis has gone to the mountains in Pennsylvania to recover if possible his health. It is hoped he will succeed in doing so. Chief Operator Moffatt was made proud of another boy a few days since. Miss Rosa Flynn has been promoted from the Yonkers wire to one of the busiest circuits in the City Department. The following is without doubt one of the most curious messages of condolence we have yet seen: "Your invitation just received. I weep but cannot come. When God took Jim, I bet you he didn't do anything else that day but just set around and feel good." Mr. Buckley a waiting list man is a brother of the celebrated ball player of that name in the Pittsburg Club. Mr. Robert C. Edwards, of the 1 to 8 A. M. force, is the originator of a very simple device which, in addition to saving considerable expense to the company, will be a great benefit to the service. With this device there can be two newspapers or branch loops worked on one set, "quad" or duplex, one loop on two sets and both sets duplexed. Two loops on two sets, both sets and loops being duplexed, both branches can be receiving while one of the two can be sending. For patience, commend us to the operator at Peru, Ills., who, the other day had a special for Boston. He called B. Indianapolis answered. "I have a special." "Who for?" "Boston." "Call X." Toledo answered. "I have a special, Peru said. "Who for" asked Toledo; Boston, he replied. O. K., call H. Cleveland answered and was told he had a special. Of course he asked "who for" and felt relieved to learn that it was for Boston. "Call G." Peru did so and got Pittsburg. "I have a special" said he. "Who for, he was asked." His reply was "Boston." "Call P." Philadelphia answered. "I have a special, said Peru." "who for" enquired Philadelphia. "Boston." He replied, "O. K., call N. Y." The veteran and skillful wire chief, Mr. Thomas G. Kennedy answered the call. "I have a special" quoth Peru. "Who for" Mr. Kennedy asked. Again the reply, but this time a trifle distressed, as if the operator was weary—"Boston." "O. K." said Mr. K. "Call B." "Call Hell" said Peru. But he didn't. He compromised on

Boston. Frank Elliott, of the Kansas City wire and George H. Goodfellow, of the Boston quad., have changed places, as have also Mr. Robert Furr, of the Boston quad., and Mr. Kunkle, of the Toronto wire. Messrs. Ashcroft and McCloskey, from The Associated and United Press, respectively, are with us; the former on the day force, the latter on the waiting list. Mr. George W. Gardanier has resigned to accept a position with the Sprague Electric Motor Company.

POSTAL NOTES.—C. P. Heyl is in charge of the office opened at the Democrat headquarters, this city. C. E. Lyman, of Boston, paid a visit to his friends here this week. Manager Flood is spending a short vacation at Niagara. W. T. Wade has resigned to go to San Francisco. The additions to the force are: J. B. Sanders and W. W. Gordon, of St. Louis, G. H. Thompson, Geo. Elliott, F. P. Phelan, P. D. McGee and E. S. Murphy. Mr. S. B. Sarbardhary, of India, who was formerly employed by this company, sailed this week for London, where he intends to complete his law studies.

TRANSFERS.—C. R. Weidmann, Cleveland, O., to New Orleans, La.; S. A. Leitch, Chattanooga, to Nashville, Tenn.; James B. Dillon, Memphis, Tenn., to Atlanta, Ga.; H. C. Bunting, Kaministiquia, to Hawk Lake, Ont.; W. V. Pierce, Cincinnati to Logansport, Ind.; W. S. Shackelford, Charleston, S. C., to Lake Waccamaw, N. C.; Mary E. Bristol, Jonesboro to Bristol, Ills.; A. J. Broderick, New York to Dallas, Tex.; E. C. Watkins, Yoakum, Tex., to Texarkana, Ark.; A. E. Mason, Bonheur to Sand Point, Ont.; E. H. Howze, Houston, Tex., to Meridian, Miss., for Associated Press; F. N. McMillan, Houston to Albuquerque, N. M.; C. W. Getcher, Carbondale to Binghamton, N. Y.; I. J. McDonald, Portland, Or., to Kansas City, Mo.; F. W. Hamley, Nashville to Atlanta, Ga.; C. M. Oliver, St. Paul to Pembina, Dak.; A. W. Copp, St. Paul to Huron, Dak.; Miss W. S. McRoy, Petersburg, Ills., to Meridian, Miss.

MARRIED.—Miss Emelie Ward, of the Wheatstone department, 195 Broadway, New York, was married on Oct. 13 to Wm. Banker, of Brooklyn. Several of her friends in the operating department were the recipients of tiny packages of wedding cake.

MARRIED—On October 17th, Mr. Francis Lynch to Miss Sadie Canfield, both of New York City.

BORN—To Mr. and Mrs. Clarence W. Zecher, of Philadelphia, October 18th, a boy.

COMMITTED SUICIDE.—C. S. Pratt, a telegraph operator for C. P. R. R., at Hot Springs, Nevada, was relieved at that place October 4th, for the purpose of taking a similar position at Toano. While waiting for the east bound passenger train, he said he would go over to the Springs and take a bath. As he was absent longer than was necessary and the train time drew nigh, the lady operator sent a Chinaman to call him. The Chinaman came running back and reported that he had found Pratt near the Springs with his clothes on, crazy and badly scalded. Before Pratt died he told a probably true story, to the effect that he had become morbid through continual night work and jumped into the hot water to commit suicide. A post mortem examination revealed the fact that the body and members were literally cooked by the hot water. He was a young man, probably twenty-five years of age and has relatives in Utah.

We will send postage prepaid to any address, a copy of Elmer E. Vance's new railway romance, "Nellie Harland," on receipt of two new yearly subscriptions. It is a dollar book, therefore a splendid premium at very liberal terms. Standard Library size (7½ x 5 inches), handsomely bound in cloth and gold with an artistic emblematic design descriptive of the title, stamped in the cover. A beautiful and appropriate book for telegraphers.



THE ELECTRIC AGE.

THE JACKSONVILLE TELEGRAPHERS.

In the AGE of September 16th, in Jacksonville Notes, there appeared these words: "Chief Operator King has fled to escape the fever." Fearing that the word "fled" might lead some of our readers to believe that Mr. King had deserted his post of duty, it will be well to add that Mr. King would have remained in Jacksonville, if it had not been for his own and his wife's family. As it was it was some time before Mr. King consented to leave, when he resigned after due notice.

Mr. J. M. Vickeroy, the telegrapher at Decatur, Ala., is taken with the fever. He is the third operator who has been taken with the fever at that point.

The Jacksonville force will be photographed in a group. Superintendent Dillon has gone to Atlanta, to visit his family, Manager Crowley officiating during his absence.

Total amount received so far by Chairman Rivers is as follows:

Frankfort, Ky., operators, per C. E. Taylor.....	\$ 26 00
B. W. Bernard, of Red Cross Association.....	5 00
Dr. L. C. Carr, volunteer physician.....	20 00
Tide Water Pipe Line operators of Penna. through Mr. Geo. Reed, of Philadelphia.....	100 00
Philadelphia subscriptions through Superintendent Gill.....	125 00
Total from New York <i>World</i> to date, which includes the ELECTRIC AGE collections.....	600 00
Magnetic Club of New York, through John Brant..	56 00

Total.....\$932 00

The AGE acknowledges receipt of \$1.00 from a Washington, D. C., chief operator. The amount has been turned over to the *World*.

The members of the Magnetic Club, at their last banquet, contributed \$56.00 to the telegraph boys at Jacksonville, Fla., and the following correspondence speaks itself:

NEW YORK, Oct. 18, 1888.

J. P. RIVERS, Esq.,  
Jacksonville, Fla.

Dear Sir:—The Magnetic Club, composed of New York telegraphers, beg you to accept for the benefit of the telegraphers, sufferers of the yellow fever in Jacksonville, Fla., the enclosed draft of \$56.00, and trust that you will assure them of our deep sympathy. We earnestly hope that your troubles may soon be over.

Fraternally yours,  
JOHN BRANT, Treasurer.  
JACKSONVILLE, FLA., Oct. 22.

JOHN BRANT, Esq., Treasurer of the Magnetic Club, New York.

Dear Sir:—This token of sympathy and interest in our behalf is most sincerely appreciated by each and all of us,

**The Telegraphers' Mutual Benefit Association.**  
**A FRATERNAL LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY.**

Twentieth Year.

For Particulars. Address CHARLES P. BRUCH, Secretary,  
Box 3175, New York.

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Bottonne—Elec. Instrument Making.....	\$1.20
Du Moncel—Electro-magnets, trans. by Wharton.....	75
Fahie—History of Elec. Telegraphy.....	3.00
Hedges—Elec. Light Precautions.....	1.00
Holmes—Electric Lighting.....	1.00
Hospitalier—Domestic Electricity.....	3.00
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Solomons, Sir D.—Accumulators.....	1.25
Stephens—Electric Lighting.....	1.00
Walker—Dynamo Building.....	.80

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and could any of us have been present at Martinelli's on the 18th, our toast would have been, "The Magnetic Club—long may it live and prosper, and be the source of untold enjoyment and pleasure to its officers and members."

Sincerely yours,

J. P. RIVERS,

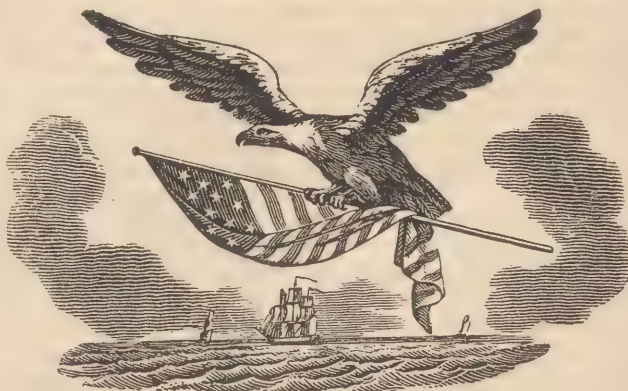
Treasurer Operators' Yellow Fever Fund.

THE *STYLUS* RECOMMENDS ITSELF.—"I acknowledge receipt of the gold ferrule ebony handled stylus for the two new yearly subscriptions. I am more than pleased with it. Indeed, could I not replace it, would not give it for the price of the two subscriptions. 'Tis a beauty. I have shown it to a friend and you will doubtless hear from him in a few days.

Yours truly, V. P. Smith, Manager W. U. Office, Lancaster, Pa." See our stylers premium offer.

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(SON OF THE INVENTOR.)



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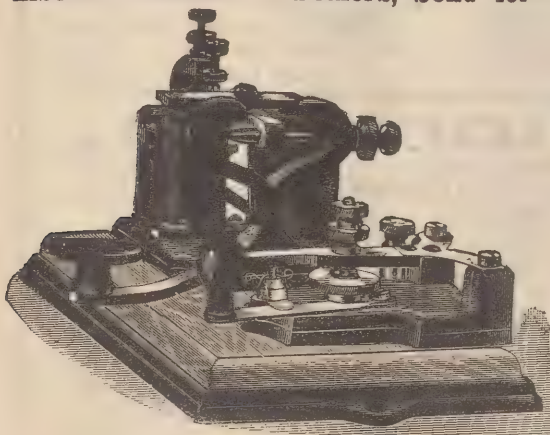
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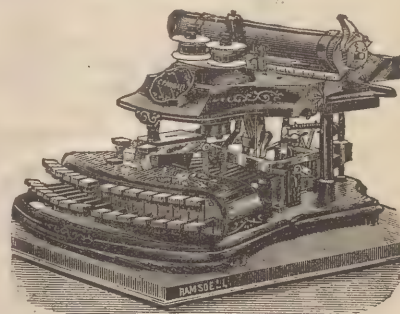
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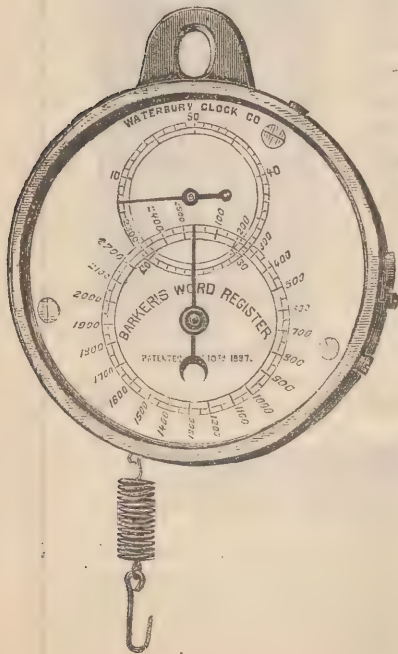
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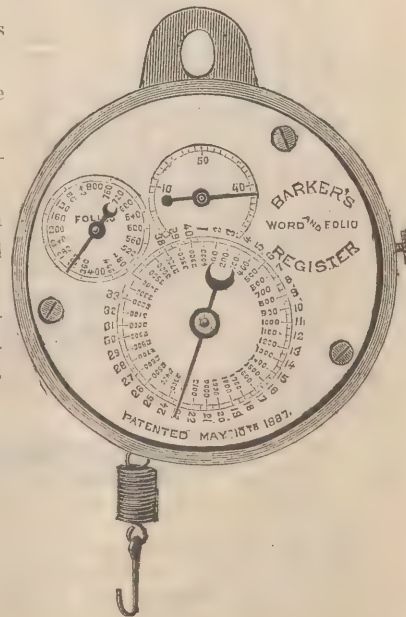
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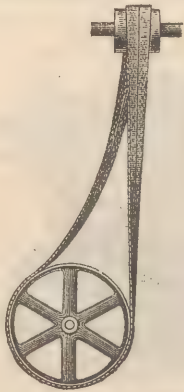
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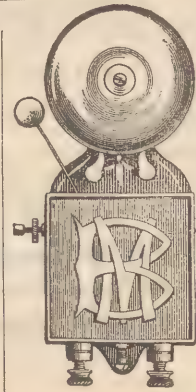
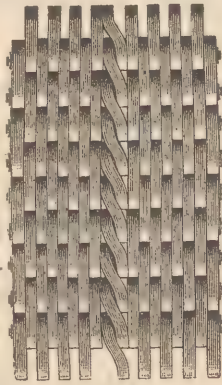
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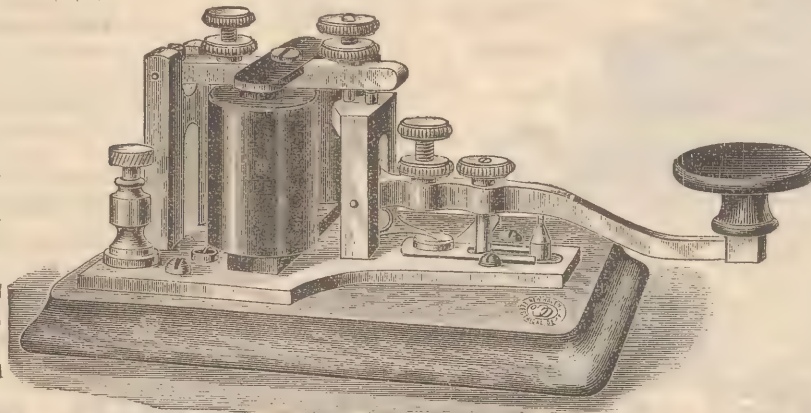
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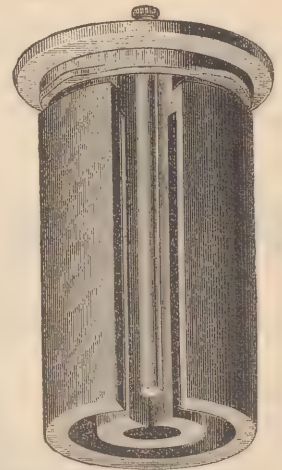
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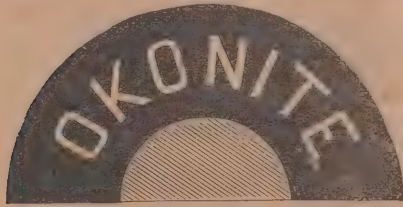
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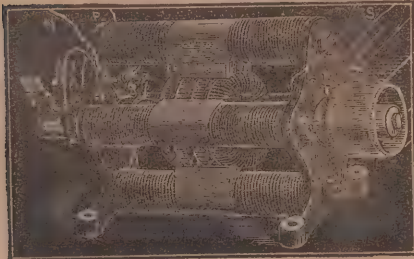
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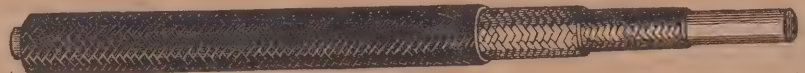
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VOL. VI—No. 12.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 16, 1888.

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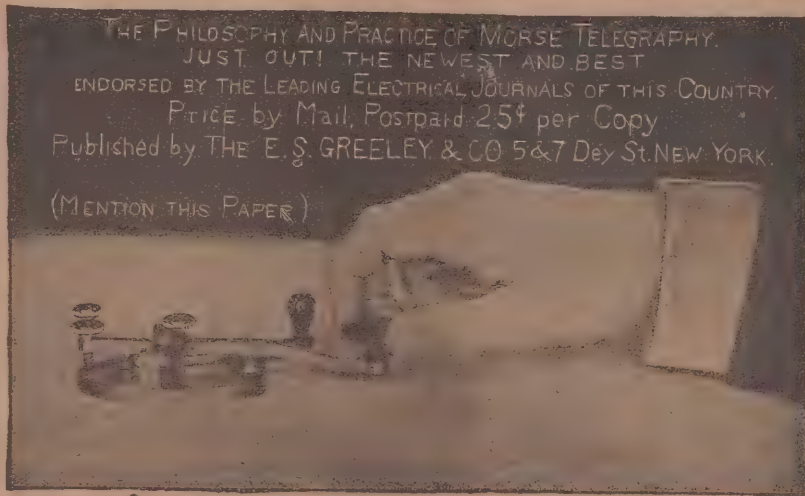
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The truth (referring to the true position of the telegraphers' hand in the act of “sending”) exposed by a lightning wink of the instantaneous camera, and permanently fixed for our deliberate inspection by the science of photography, dawns upon the craft intellect accompanied with something of the amazement that startled the artistic world when the elaborate anatomical studies by Rosa Bonheur of the horse in the act of running, were delivered over to universal ridicule by the subtleties of the same agent, instantaneous photography.

*The Electrical Review*, March 24th, '88.

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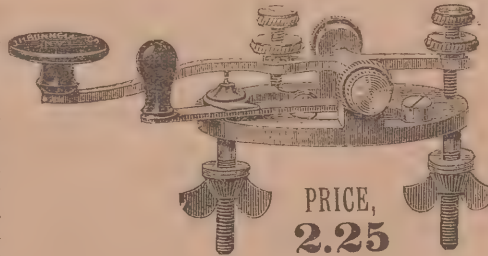
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STEEL LEVER KEY as possible, or made with some kind of a "steel lever," or "patent lever," and in every case claiming all the merits possible and impossible that language could describe.

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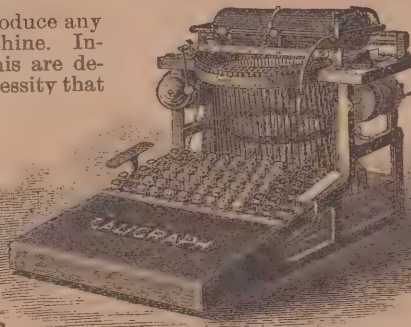
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THE COMMERCIAL GAZETTE.

Cincinnati, October 5th, 1885.

C. G. Muller, Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

Sir:—About three months since, I commenced to use the Caligraph with a view to receiving special despatches from the wires, instead of by the old method by the pen. In about three weeks I was able, by diligent practice, to write from thirty-five to forty words per minute. Since then I have been using the machine with success receiving from five to six thousand words per night upon it. We have found the machine of such value in the work as to be able to receive the despatches by code, or abbreviation, thus increasing this capacity of the wire, though the matter is written out in full upon the Caligraph. We make an average speed of fifty words per minute by this method, and expect to do still better work with it.

The machine is a No. 2 and must be a marvel of durability, as it has never been out of order under this continuous and heavy strain, and is always ready for use.

Very truly yours, Signed; Frank B. Ross, Opr. Commercial Gazette, Cincinnati, O. October 5th, 1885.

C. G. Muller, Esq., Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O. Dear Sir:—I cheerfully certify to the correctness of the above statement of our operator. Signed; Chas. E. Thorp, Telegraph Editor C. G.

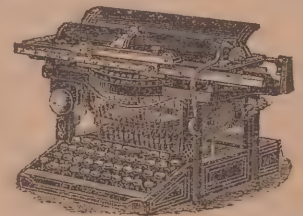
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TORONTO, Aug. 13, '88. (Internal Tournament for World's Championship.) 1st and 2nd Prizes, business correspondence. 1st and 2nd Prizes, legal testimony (gold and silver medals.)

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No. 5 Dey St., New York.

NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 16, 1888.

The demand for election returns was greater this year than ever before known. Of course, the Western Union, as well as the Postal and other companies, provided ample facilities for furnishing all desiring private wires with prompt and reliable returns at a charge of from \$25 to \$100 for the entire service. Not a complaint was made either in regard to the quality of the news or its promptness. In New York city alone, fully two hundred loops were run for this purpose, which were connected with the various circuits leading from the main office. Every available operator was pressed into service, and for once in many months there was an unusual demand for good telegraphic talent. Boston, Philadelphia, Chicago, Albany, St. Louis, and in fact, all points report a corresponding demand for similar service, and no one applied in vain. The companies went so far as to send city operators into the small towns along the various roads, to copy the returns for the farmers who had suddenly awakened to the importance of a presidential election. The revenue to the telegraph companies from this source alone, will certainly run into the hundreds of thousands of dollars; so they have been adequately rewarded for their enterprise. The people could not wait for the daily papers to furnish them the information desired, although "extras" were issued hourly. This goes to show what an important factor the telegraph is in the commercial world. In fact it enabled the entire country before midnight, to correctly guess as to which party had been victorious.

Do you receive the ELECTRIC AGE every issue? If you do not, is it not barely possible that you miss something for which you would have gladly paid twice the subscription price; The AGE is pronounced a great success as a telegraph journal, which proves that it contains more telegraphic news of interest to the craft than all its predecessors combined in times gone by. It contains more reading of the right sort and is always awake to the necessities of its patrons. Its record of deaths, appointments, transfers and other import-

ant features, are alone worth the price of the paper for a whole year, saying nothing of the column of four hundred inches of solid reading matter, three and a quarter inches wide in every issue. Invest \$1.50 in the paper for a year's subscription and you will wonder how you got along so long without it.

NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE AND THE CABLE.—The English metropolis had an unusual sensation on Wednesday morning in the European edition of the New York *Herald*. The London papers were silent about our great election. This edition had its columns of cables—news from all the State capitals. This, of course, was the feature of the publication. The history of journalism records no more brilliant achievement than this London edition of the New York *Herald*. The cable despatches from New York were the longest and fullest ever sent to Europe from the United States. They were received in perfect condition with promptness and accuracy, thanks to the magnificent service of the Commercial Cables. The New York *Herald* owes to the splendid management of the Commercial Cables the fact that it was enabled to handle and print these returns so fully and with such promptitude that all London had read the news in our columns before a word had appeared in the London journals.

This, therefore, is a double achievement and one in which every American should take pride. First, that there should be a journal bold enough to teach London a lesson in journalism; and second, that an American cable company should be so perfectly equipped as to enable it to be done with such splendid success.—*Herald*.

An official report has been issued on the subject of the Belgium military telegraphic corps. The total strength of the telegraphic corps on a war footing amounts to 4 officers and 210 men, and these are split into two divisions. The first is devoted to construction, taking up, and destruction of telegraph lines, and also attends to signaling in general; the second division is charged with the working, repairing, etc., of lines under the control of the military authorities. The personnel of the corps is divided into three sections: The first section is furnished with 200 telegraph poles, spare stores and tools for putting up the wire; the second has a wagon containing 15 miles of wire wound on drums, and insulators, etc.; the third section comprises three wagons carrying 12 1/2 miles of cable and 3 3/4 miles of special light wire for advance posts, in addition to the tools necessary for the construction of the cable lines.

A rain storm at Kansas City, Missouri, on Thursday morning, developed into a snow storm yesterday morning, and at last accounts the flakes were still falling. The sun, however, melted it almost as fast as it fell. It was accompanied by a brisk wind and did considerable damage. Nearly all the railroads centering in Kansas City were delayed. The telegraph wires were crippled. A dispatch from Atchison, Kansas, says the most phenomenal snow storm that ever occurred in Northern Kansas began yesterday morning and raged furiously all day. All trains were delayed and telegraph wires prostrated. In Atchison over 200 telephone wires were broken and so tangled up with electric light wires that the electric light works suspended to prevent accidents. The storm was the heaviest that has occurred there at any season of the year since 1878.

A suit is pending against the Dominion Telegraph Co., now leased by the Great Northwestern Co., for arrears of taxes alleged to be due the corporation of Toronto. The amount involved is \$7,000.

The Bell Telephone Co. have reduced the subscription rates from \$50 to \$25 per month in Montreal, and the Toronto patrons are expecting the same privileges.

The Order of Railway Telegraphers are organizing a branch of the society among the employes of the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad.



THE BABYHOOD OF TELEGRAPHY.  
 BERNARD O'CONNOR AND PROF. MORSE.  
 JAMES D. REID IN THE "*Western Electrician*."

*Part II.*

Notwithstanding these experiments of Dr. Watson in the middle of the last century, Prof. C. A. Steinheil of Munich, in 1838, claimed it as his own, and Mr. Shaffner in his "*Manuel of Electricity*," with his usual facility, grants the claim. Nor, indeed, are such claims to be lightly regarded. Steinheil's discovery may have been made in entire ignorance of what Dr. Watson had previously done. This is true in the case of thousands of patents, which have enriched others than the original inventor, and yet were honestly due and honestly obtained. No patent or claim for the discovery of the earth as a conductor, and capable of utilization as a return wire, was ever issued in America. The correspondence between Mr. O'Reilly and Prof. Morse was on a totally different subject, which is made clear by Mr. O'Connor's reference to Prof. Morse's article published in the *Baltimore Clipper*.

*How Iron Wire Came to be Used.*—It is well known that the first wires erected were of copper, and no doubt seemed for a time to be entertained of the necessity of using that material, even though other metals were known as conductors. So far, the telegraph projectors were without any experience and little knowledge to the contrary. Yet copper was expensive, and in its usual condition at that date, weak and easily broken. Added to this its value caused it to be readily stolen whenever the wire was exposed to deprecation. Indeed, the disasters from such causes were so frequent that the line between Lancaster and Harrisburgh was abandoned, and, through my intimacy with Prof. Morse, and acquaintance with Alfred Vail and Hon. Amos Kendall, I became the superintendent, *pro tem.*, of the line of the Magnetic Telegraph Company, then partly completed between New York and Washington. It happened one day when some very important news from abroad had been received, that the wire leading out of Philadelphia was found to be out of order and by certain signs, well-known now, we judged the trouble to be very near. Accompanied by my companion in the office, afterward one of the true heroes of the battle of Gettysburg, Gen. S. K. Took, we started out and found the wire broken near Callowhill street, and part of it carried away. I attempted to buy enough copper wire at the stores near me to mend the break, but could find none. Finally to make the connection, as a desperate expedient, I bought and used a coil of small iron stove pipe wire and then hastened back to see the result. Rejoiced exceedingly to find the circuit restored and ready for business, I immediately acquainted Mr. O'Reilly and President Amos Kendall with the fact, and from that information it was determined to use iron wire instead of copper. This was the subject of Professor Morse's article in the *Baltimore Clipper* referred to by Mr. O'Connor.

*Professor Morse's Impertinence.*—The impertinence ascribed to Professor Morse I never heard of, although intimate with both, neither do I believe it possible of proof in any such connection. Professor Morse was the most polite of men, and of calm and unruffled temperament. Mr. O'Reilly, of all men, was the least qualified to address anyone on purely electrical matters; he was a man of much ability, but never in that direction. He was polite but impatient of restraint, and vindictive. However, he could quickly see the value of the substitution of iron for copper wire and at once adopted it. There was friction between these gentlemen afterward when Mr. O'Reilly undertook to break the professor's patent, but Professor Morse in defending his rights never forgot that he was a gentleman.

Although I was thus the means in this incidental way of bringing about the adoption of iron wire, I could not, of course, claim it to have been an original discovery, original though it was to me and those about me. The conducting power of various metals was known long before I or any of us were

born. In the existing state of general knowledge, however, it was valuable. It led to the vastly increasing reliability of telegraphic transmission and gave great impetus and success to telegraph line building and the formation of companies.

*Did Professor Morse invent the Telegraph.*—The interview with Mr. O'Connor now has to do with Professor Morse's claim as an inventor:

"Professor Henry stated that Professor Morse obtained his patent through a drawing he had of a telegraph instrument: He had a workman make a model from this drawing, and the mechanic could not get the model to work until he had come to him and had several explanations. He also said that Morse could not explain the instrument at all."

The charge that Professor Morse was unable to explain his own instrument, at once places this strange narrative on a plane so low as to be vile, and utterly discredits all of real interest in the story. It is too idle for treatment. Professor Morse was for a long time on intimate terms with Professor Henry, although at a late period in their lives they became unfriendly. The following letter of Professor Henry will settle in all just minds Professor Morse's claim to his invention by the one man in America who knew best of all others its identity and value:

PROFESSOR HENRY'S ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

PRINCETON COLLEGE, February 24, 1842.—About the same time with yourself, Professor Wheatstone, of London and Professor Steinheil, of Germany, proposed plans of an electro-magnetic telegraph. These differ as much from yours as the common principle would well permit. Unless some essential improvements have lately been made in these European plans *I should prefer the one invented by yourself.*

With my best wishes for success, I remain with much esteem,

JOSEPH HENRY.

I go back however still further, and give any doubter of Professor Morse's claims the following letters from Amos Kendall and Professor Henry, which it appears to me should be final:

LETTER FROM AMOS KENDALL.

WASHINGTON, December 1, 1847.

*Dear Friend Reid:*—While Professor Morse was in Europe in 1838-39, Professor Henry borrowed Professor Morse's ten mile roll of experimental wire of Dr. Gale who had it in charge for the purpose of experimenting upon electro-magnetism at Princeton. On his return Morse wrote to Henry approving the loan of wire, and among other things inquiring whether in his experiments he had become acquainted with any fact tending to show that his plan of an electro-magnetic telegraph was impracticable.

To this Professor Henry replied as follows:

PRINCETON, May 6, 1839.

*Dear Sir:*—Your favor of the 24th ult. came to Princeton during my absence. I am pleased to learn that you fully sanction the loan which I obtained from Dr. Gale of your wire, and I shall be happy if any of the results are found to have a practical bearing on the electric telegraph.

I am acquainted with no fact which would lead me to suppose that the project of the electric telegraph is impracticable. On the contrary I believe that science is now ripe for the application and there are no difficulties in the way but such as ingenuity and enterprise may obviate. But what form of the apparatus or what application of the power will prove best, can, I believe, be only obtained by careful experiment. I can say, however, that so far as I am acquainted with the minutiae of your plan, I see no practical difficulty in the way of its application *for comparatively short distances*; but if the length of the wire between the stations be great, I think some other modification will be found necessary, in order to develop a sufficient power at the further



end of the line. I remain with much respect,  
Yours, etc.,

JOSEPH HENRY.

This letter establishes the following facts :

1. That Professor Henry had been experimenting upon electricity with Professor Morse's wire previously used by him in New York in perfecting his plans.

2. That at the date of this letter *upward of eight years* after the publication of his (Morse's) experiments in *Silliman's Journal*, which have been largely quoted as virtually an invention of the electro-magnetic telegraph, Professor Henry had no definite idea of the form of such a telegraph and supposed that there were still difficulties which it would require ingenuity and enterprise to overcome.

That supposing Professor Morse's plan to be a telegraph of a single circuit, he deemed some modification of that plan necessary when the circuit should be of great length in order to develop a sufficient power at the farther end of the line.

3. Professor Henry did not then suggest and the inference is irresistible that he had not before suggested to Professor Morse any specific modification calculated to effect that object. Yet Professor Morse more than two years before had not only devised but actually constructed in his combined circuit the modification Professor Henry had in 1839 thought still to be necessary, and had filed a caveat for that device more than a year before.

Professor Henry never claimed to have invented the telegraph, or the part of it which seemed essential for distant transmission. He greatly improved and enlarged the knowledge of the electro magnet and this facilitated invention.

Yours truly,

AMOS KENDALL.

With the full knowledge of all the facts and with these letters of Professor Henry before him it would seem that no sensible man can ever claim that Professor Morse, the uprightness of whose character has never yet been impugned, derived his conception of the electric telegraph from Professor Henry or from any drawing made by him, except as Henry, Oersted, Schweigger, Sturgeon and other scientists enlarged general knowledge in the fields of magnetism and electricity.

ALFRED VAIL.

The chief assistance ever received by Professor Morse in the perfection of his telegraph was rendered him by Alfred Vail, of Morristown, N. J., with whom I was on terms of great intimacy while acting as superintendent of the Magnetic Telegraph Company's lines between New York and Washington, but of whom I do not propose to have much to say in this article. Mr. Vail was a practical machinist, and had the practical talent which Professor Morse, who was an artist, needed to put his invention into shape for public use. Mr. Vail, with other gentlemen, first saw the apparatus of Professor Morse at an exhibition of it at the rooms of the New York University, in 1837, and witnessed its capacity to record messages, and this led to Professor Morse's receiving him as his partner. Of Mr. Vail, Professor Morse always spoke in terms of kindness and esteem. In writing to a friend Professor Morse used the following language :

"It is especially to the attention and skill, and faith in the full success of the enterprise maintained by Alfred Vail, that is due the success of my endeavors to bring the telegraph at that time creditably before the public."

The arrangement of the mechanism was Mr. Vail's special field, which, though it added nothing to any part of the invention as such, gave to it a commercial form and value. The registering apparatus arranged by Mr. Vail for the government line was good but clumsy. With his amused ap-

proval I altered the form to the shape of a harp. Its final and preferred form was given to it by Richard M. Hoe, the inventor of the fast printing press, and has never since been essentially changed. Of this and other matters I may have more to say hereafter.

GEN ANSON STAGER.

The interview continues as follows :

"Mr. O'Connor was for many years connected with the Western Union Company and was for a long time superintendent of its lines. He at one time owned more Western Union stock than any other man. He has built more telegraph lines than any other man and put up the first wire to the Pacific coast early in the fifties. It was while he was superintendent of the Western Union that General Anson Stager, of this city, found employment in a telegraph office. He first gave him employment at Lancaster. The young man was bright and diligent and was rapidly promoted. He was finally placed in charge of the office at Cincinnati, and when Mr. O'Connor resigned the position of superintendent, he recommended Mr. Stager to succeed him. The company followed the suggestion and gave Stager the place."

It is not very important, but General Stager received his first official appointment to a telegraph office by me while acting as superintendent of the Atlantic & Ohio Telegraph Company, in 1846, long before the existence of the Western Union Telegraph Company, and subsequently to the management of the Cincinnati office of the Pittsburgh and Louisville Company's lines, over which my jurisdiction had been extended. This latter office he filled with great skill and usefulness. Mr. O'Connor, as lessee of the New York and Mississippi Valley Printing Telegraph Company's lines, afterward Western Union, through Ohio and Indiana, and inducements held out to him by the board at Rochester, N. Y., led to General Stager's leaving my employ in 1852, and entering a career in the service of the Western Union Telegraph Company which brought him much wealth and influence.

I close with an extract from Professor Morse to a friend before relief came to him from Congress, and brought to him his final success.

MORSE'S FIGHT WITH POVERTY.

"No one can tell the days and months of anxiety and labor I have had in perfecting my telegraphic apparatus. For want of means I have been compelled to make with my own hands, and to labor for weeks on what a good mechanic could have made in one-tenth of the time. Nothing but the consciousness that I have an invention which is to mark an era in human civilization and which is to contribute to the happiness of millions would have sustained me through so many and such lengthened trials of patience in perfecting it."

It was no small man who wrote these ringing words.

(Concluded.)

The Annual Meeting of the Telegraphers' Mutual Benefit Association will be held in the Western Union Building, 195 Broadway, at four o'clock, on Wednesday, November 21st, 1888. Members who cannot attend the meeting, are requested to forward their proxies to the secretary's office at the earliest date convenient, in order that there may be time for checking and listing them properly.

A new fire alarm company has been formed in Brooklyn, under the name of the Brooklyn Auxiliary Fire Alarm Company, with a capital of \$300,000. Mr. Charles H. Luscumb, one of the Park Commissioners, is president. This company will use the Electric Fire Protective Company's system.

J. W. Mackay and J. G. Bennett, owners of the Commercial Cables, are in town.



TO T. B.  
"DE."

Stern of Countenance, immobile of purpose,  
Thou art a disciplinarian Strictly to the Sense  
Of the term. Thou art prone to indulge in  
Biting Sarcasm which Sendeth a chill  
To the heart of him that hath transgressed  
The forms and usages promulgated by thee  
And thy Superiors.

It hath been our misfortune to have  
Appeared at divers times before thy desk,  
Where thou Sittest in Judgment on pay day  
Absentees. And we have listened with feelings  
Indescribable to thy Scathing remarks.  
But as we knew full well that punishment  
Was due our acts, we submitted with  
Never a murmur and Spake of thee  
As being most Just.

Thy Judgment hath oft been tempered  
With mercy, and we have heard thee  
Called a Veritable Daniel in thy integrity.  
Ere yet the fragrant lilac hath permeated the  
Air with its Sweet perfume, the erst while  
Waiting list man hath approached thee and Said,  
"Since the ides of October I hath wrought  
With diligence with my fellows, and  
Now as the Season of Sweet blossoms  
And piping notes of merry birds is  
Here, I prith thee kind Chief  
To put me on regular."

And thou hast said in return :  
"The fair moon will come and go  
Full twenty times ere yet thou  
Shalt be looked upon as a  
Regular man. Thou hast been absent  
Every pay day for many months.  
Depart from me. I'll see thee later."  
And he of the waiting list hath went  
Away while his lips moved  
As if in prayer.

We have observed thee as thou hast  
Scanned the vast wilderness of heads  
That fill the room and anon we  
Have seen thee select from that  
Multitude a tardy dinner relief  
And bring him to Judgment.  
Thou art a shrewd observer of human  
Nature. Thy long and varied experience  
Hath made thee a fisher of men.  
The diligent day men who perchance  
Hath appeared at his desk at a later  
Hour than that required by the regulations,  
Hath bowed his head in Silent grief  
As thou hast pronounced the awful  
Sentence which consigned him to the Split trick,  
During the rest of his natural life.  
And may the Lord have mercy on his Soul.

Now that the election is over and the bustle and confu-  
sion incident to such an event is past, the following colloquy  
will once more be heard in the hallways, the dining room  
and all over the building :

"What man are you?"

"Twenty-second."

"Want a scoop?"

"Naw."

"Better let me scoop you."

"Nop."

"Why?"

"Scoop meself."

"S'long."

It was far advanced towards morning. The instrument  
clicked lazily and here and there through the room, the

sleeping form of an over-worked all night man could be  
seen reclining peacefully on two chairs. Suddenly a man in  
one corner of the large operating room, sprung to his feet.  
A wild, hungry look was in his eye. He surveyed the room  
critically, as if looking for some one and then he started off  
at a rapid gait towards the city department.

"Curses on me luck" he muttered through his teeth. "I'll  
get it or ere the orb of day shines resplendent in the blue vault  
above us, there'll be a murder recorded."

He found his man, and leaning over him, whispered a few  
passionate words in his ear. The other merely shook his  
head sadly, and the would be murderer retraced his steps in  
the direction of the Chicago wires. Here he spoke in low,  
subdued tones to several of the men, and one of them sur-  
reptitiously slipped him something he had taken from his  
hip pocket. It glistened like silver. The wild eyed man  
fumbled with it a moment under the desk and handed it  
back to the owner. As he strode away he said : "I've not  
had a chew in two nights ; thank Heaven, it is fine cut."

A waiting list man approached the assistant manager's  
desk the day after the election, and in an abject tone of  
voice inquired "How much longer do you think it will be,  
Mr. Brennan, before you can put me on regular. The assist-  
ant manager smiled pleasantly and said : "Four, four, four  
years more."

DIED.—S. G. St. Clair, manager of the Western Union  
office, Consolidated Exchange, this city, died on November  
4th, of consumption. A number of prominent telegraphers  
attended the funeral which occurred November 6th. Floral  
tributes to the memory of deceased, from old associates and  
friends were numerous. One from the Exchange force  
was inscribed "Our friend 30." Mr. St. Clair has been wast-  
ing away for some time and to his friends for many months,  
the end seemed almost at hand. Mr. St. Clair came to New  
York about eight years ago from Cleveland, Ohio, and since  
that time had earned an excellent reputation and rapid pro-  
motion. Mr. St. Clair was respected by all who knew him.

DIED.—In Chicago, Ills., October 28th, James Nelson, a  
well-known telegrapher. In 1875 Mr. Nelson was appointed  
manager of the Western Union office at Fort Leavenworth,  
Ks., and acted in that capacity for some years. His home  
was in Philadelphia, Pa., but he had traveled quite a great  
deal. He was at one time in the Hartford, Conn., office, and  
for many years a resident of St. Louis, Mo. During the  
last two years he has made Chicago his home. He was  
forty years of age.

DIED.—W. J. Mallen, of the Postal main office, 187  
Broadway, New York, died at his home in Jersey City, N. J.,  
on November 1st. The funeral was attended by quite a  
number of the members of the force. Mr. Mallen was high-  
ly respected by his numerous friends and associates who sent  
a large floral design. Among the pall-bearers were C. P.  
Flood, F. E. McKiernan, J. McNulty, J. Tiernan and F.  
McGuire. Deceased was twenty-seven years of age.

DIED.—Richard J. Clute died at Omaha, Neb., on Octo-  
ber 26th, aged 39 years. Mr. Clute was an old and re-  
spected member of the force and his untimely death has  
caused much sorrow among his numerous friends.

DIED.—Herrick P. Frost, manager of the Southern New  
England Telephone Company, died November 3rd, in New  
Haven, after an illness of six months, from Bright's disease.

DIED.—Francois X. Dumas died at Riveire du Loup,  
Que., on October 27th, aged 23 years.

David Lovenstein died at Terra Alta, W. Va., October,  
12th, of cancer of the stomach.

DIED.—Henry Beeder died at Quitman, Miss., on Novem-  
ber 1st, aged 34 years.

DIED.—A. W. Haygood died at Fort Gaines, Ga., on Oc-  
tober 18th.

H. C. Ladd, of San Francisco, died Oct 18; aged 71 years.



TORONTO NOTES.—Telegraph business in the G. N. W. has been exceedingly good the past summer, which necessitated the employment of some seven or eight extra operators, half of whom are now being let out owing to a decrease. Great interest was taken in the presidential election, and bulletins were received here continually from 7 P. M. to 3 A. M. by these operators, and immediately transmitted throughout the city and the Dominion. With Mr. B. B. Toye as manager the day force is comprised as follows: Under Chief J. L. Curry, ably assisted by Messrs. C. E. McManus, A. Hunter, G. Beard, C. W. Hurlburt, S. Hutchinson, A. Peden, J. B. Rogers, J. Cormack, J. Adams, W. Watts, J. F. Reade, A. Strachan, A. Culler, Bond, T. Goldsmith, W. D. Toye, the Misses L. Mitchell, S. Henderson. E. Aunger, A. Sanderson; Mr. D. Fair, ticker inspector. The ladies' department is looked after by Mr. W. J. Duckworth, who is a prime favorite with the ladies. Mrs. Baird, the Misses M. Coutts, Em. Porte, N. MacFarlane, D. Aymong, B. Weaver, P. Weaver, M. Hamilton, E. Purkiss, A. Chalk, C. Brown, H. Hill, J. Robson, J. Cunningham, Mr. W. Hill and Mr. R. Burns. The night staff is presided over by Mr. Thomas Pike, with Mr. John Lanskaill as assistant; J. Clandinan, R. W. Tilt, C. W. Dawzy, R. A. Baker, C. Davis, F. Nicolls, A. Christian, D. Urquhart, Mr. John Tipson, *Mail*, Alex. Bennett, *News Bureau*. Mr. W. C. Ashenfelter of the night force has resigned to accept a position as traveller with E. W. Gillett, a Chicago firm.

DETROIT NOTES.—The election returns made things lively with us for a night and day. The office at 3 A. M., Novem 7th, presented the appearance of a snow storm. All of the theatres, clubs and other bulletin offices in the city were looped into the eastern circuit, thus doing away with much relaying. Mr. Staley, from Omaha is a recent arrival, and Mr. J. B. Nelson, for Chicago, a recent departure. "H. Fry McCarthy" for "Henry McCarthy" may be an old and grizzled chestnut long since buried and entitled to rest, but it was dug up here the other day and looked as fresh as if bran new.

POSTAL NOTES.—Miss Annie Boyle, E. D. Murphy, G. W. Sherwin, W. C. Cherry have been added to the regular force and J. H. Rissell to the extra list. Mr. Keegan has transferred to 96 Spring street and P. J. O'Reilly to 406 West street. T. J. Kehoe, A. W. Reetz and Wm. Buchanan have resigned. W. J. Young of the day force and Jos. Walsh nights have exchanged tricks. Timothy Carey, night clerk, who has been on the sick list for some time, has returned to duty. The amount of election matter handled here was very large, requiring the entire force of day, night and extra men to get it off, besides every operator that could be spared from the branches.

The telegraph operators have distinguished themselves by sticking to their posts at Jacksonville during the epidemic. —*Lock and Bell*.

The trustees of Fresno, Cal., have granted a telegraph franchise to the Postal Telegraph Company for fifty years.

The Western Union has established a branch office in the Post Office at Philadelphia.

Charleston, S. C., desires better telegraph service.

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5 Dey street, New York.

Harry Collins no longer takes night press dispatches in the office of the *Globe*, in St. Paul, Minn. Soon after he took the position, he began to complain that some one in the office of the *Dispatch*, an afternoon paper, was turning a switch so as to cut him off, causing him to lose part of his report. The loop from the main office ran into the *Dispatch* office on its way to the *Globe*. Superintendent Tuttle was notified of the trouble and having had some previous experience with Collins as a chief operator, he was rather skeptical, as the *Dispatch* office is almost always closed at night. So he quietly ran a second loop to the office of the *Dispatch*, cut out the old one on the roof and awaited developments. In a day or two, Collins came in on time, answered his call and an hour later, claimed that he had been cut off again at the *Dispatch* office; but the work done by Mr. Tuttle exploded this theory of the ingenious Mr. Collins, and this is the reason he is no longer employed in the *Globe* office. It is said that his fellow operators smile when they see him, and ask if he has found out the name of the unknown night visitor who turned the switch that was not connected with his wire, thus cutting him out. It is thought that Collins' scheme had been to report for duty on time, answer his call, and then take a walk of an hour, for his health, whenever it suited him.

Will E. Lockart, one of the Postal operators of Oil City, has surprised his many friends by composing a piece for the piano entitled, "Golden Moments Waltz." Critics speak highly of it, and although just published, it has already had a large sale. "Billy" has the congratulations of his friends on his success.

Leroy R. Wright, agent and operator at North Grove, Ind., was arrested October 16th, for extracting money from registered letters, for which he had receipted and was to deliver so the mail agent of the night trains.

A falling off of business in the W. U. main office, Philadelphia, has necessitated a reduction in the force of five men.

There are quite a number of telegraphers, members of the crack regiments of the country.

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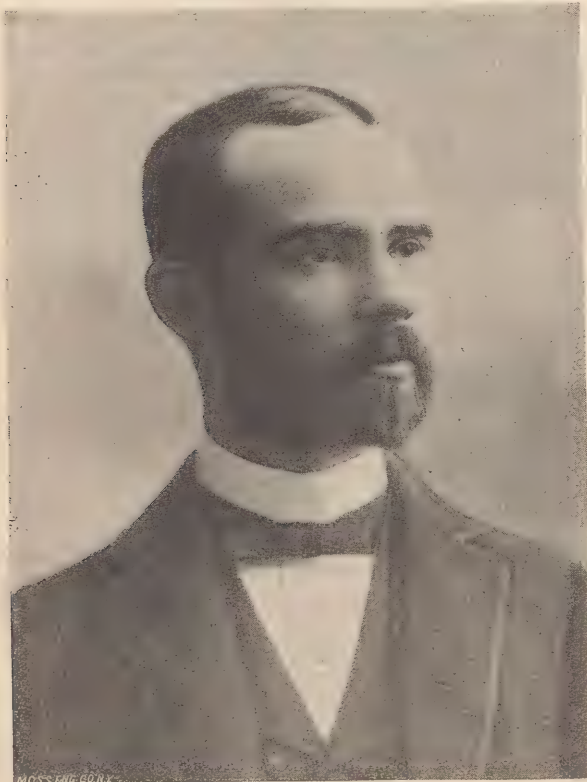
## WILLIAM J. LLOYD

MANAGER WESTERN UNION OFFICE, CHICAGO, ILLS.

The subject of this sketch, Mr. William J. Lloyd, was born in Buffalo, N. Y., on June 21, 1853. He entered the service of the Western Union Telegraph Company, as messenger at Dubuque, Iowa, in 1866, and after two years service in that capacity secured a position on the western end of the Illinois Central Railroad, as operator.

Tiring of railroading in a short time, he secured a situation in the commercial office of the Pacific and Atlantic Company at Dubuque, where he remained until 1872. In that year Mr. Lloyd accepted a position with the North-Western Telegraph Company, at Milwaukee, when, after a few month's service he became the chief operator of the office.

In the Spring of 1874, Mr. Lloyd was appointed joint manager of the Western Union and North-Western Companies at McGregor, Iowa. While at that point he studied law and in September, 1876, was admitted to the bar. He then began the practice of his new profession in Clayton County, when a year later, owing to the failure of the North-Western Construction Company, by which his father lost all he possessed, he had to seek more remunerative employment than the law practice of a young lawyer.



WILLIAM J. LLOYD.

In 1877 Mr. Lloyd re-entered the telegraph service at Chicago. Multiplex telegraphy, something entirely strange to a country manager, excited his curiosity and, after its diligent study, he was in November, 1877, appointed division chief operator on the night force, and placed in charge of the Milwaukee and St. Paul divisions. He was then transferred to the New York division, then the Overland and the North Western Press. After that he was made wire chief, and in September, 1883, he was appointed night manager.

During the Summer of 1884, Mr. Lloyd had charge of both the Democratic and Republican conventions at Chicago, and in the fall of that year traveled with James G. Blaine on his celebrated ten days tour, in charge of the press dispatches of the party, journeying through the States of Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Ohio, Pennsylvania and New York. In December, 1884, he assumed charge of the Board of

Trade office and in April, 1886, was appointed chief operator of the main office.

During the two and one-half years of the Lloyd administration there has never been the slightest regret on the part of the company for the appointment, or complaint on the side of the employes. Mr. Lloyd is regarded most effectually by both. While he is a strict disciplinarian, the kind manner in which he treats alike all employes, has resulted in his possessing a force of steady, reliable and faithful subordinates.

To the writer, a short time ago, District Superintendent Tubbs expressed himself in the following language: "The Lloyd management is the best for the company and the employes, Chicago has ever had."

## SAN FRANCISCO COLLEGE COLLAPSES.

The institution known as the Globe Business College, which has so often been exposed as a snare and a fraud, is now in a state of total collapse, as far as its standing in San Francisco is concerned.

For some time the only art taught to deluded pupils has been telegraphy, so that it has recently been known as the Union Electric Telegraph Company. The headquarters of the enterprise are at St. Louis, and there are said to be branches all over the country.

The bait they hold out to young men and women is that they will enable them to become proficient telegraph operators, and they verbally promise them situations at the end of the course; but they take the precaution to compel their intending pupils to sign a printed contract which has hitherto frustrated the attempts of their dupes to recover damages by legal process.

These contracts among other things state in fine print that they will furnish splendid situations if there are any vacant on their line. As the only line they usually possess is that from the upstairs rooms to the lower floor, the pupils chance of success is somewhat slim.

Whenever they were exposed and sued in St. Louis, they saved their necks by the production of those cast iron contracts which they told their pupils at the time they were signed, meant nothing.

The papers have several times informed the public that the tuition afforded is of a very inferior character, and that their verbal promises were specious lies, and has refused to publish their advertisements.

A new development has just been brought to light by the commencement of a number of suits in the Justices' Court.

A few days ago, O. F. Armstrong, the superintendent, disappeared from the city without bidding his pupils good-by. The next night Miss M. A. Muller, the Manager, also fled precipitately, and the pupils are like sheep without a shepherd.

Miss Muller is known to have gone to New York, but nobody knows where Armstrong went. Whether the pair are together or not is also a matter of doubt; but the fact that they have apparently taken more delight in each other's company than in teaching the pupils to manipulate the electrical instruments makes it more than probable that they are not far apart.

One pupil who has only had two week's tuition out of the four months' course, has had to pay \$40 for learning wisdom instead of telegraphy. Another paid a similar sum for nine days' instruction. A third deposited \$25, and saw the faces of his preceptors but one solitary day. Another was more fortunate, as his day's learning only cost him \$10.

As soon as the pupils ascertained that the institution had bursted, they sought redress without delay, and by lumping their claims they brought suits through Attorneys Howe and Carson for the sum of \$299. A fresh batch of suits will be filed later. All the instruments and furniture have been attached.

The manager of the organization is a woman named E. Bailey; but she has rarely ventured so far west as California.



The local managers have frequently been arrested for obtaining money by false pretenses, and where this has happened a new manager has usually been appointed to keep the ball rolling.

## ENTRAPPING YOUNG PEOPLE.

Considerable ingenuity was shown in laying traps for confiding youths. One girl, who was furnished with a good situation, was used as a decoy. Whenever referred to she gave an enthusiastic account of the advantages that had accrued to herself, and told in glowing words the benefits that would bless others, if they promptly paid the money demanded of them.

In addition, the officers learnedly informed applicants that the Government Postal Telegraph Bill would soon be passed, and they would then have vacancies for all the operators they could procure.

When Miss Muller and Armstrong skipped they left John Vetter, a former pupil, in charge of the college. They took care to provide themselves with ready money for traveling expenses by drawing their salaries twice this month and by selling a typewriter for \$45 to help out. Miss Muller also purchased a sealskin cloak on the installment plan. She had paid one installment and wears one cloak.

They had from six to thirty pupils all the time under their tuition, but at the time of their flight not less than thirty-five victims were on their list.—*Examiner*.

THE PACIFIC CABLE.—A public meeting has been called in London, to urge upon the Government the advisability of pushing the survey of the route for the proposed cable across the Pacific Ocean, and of providing for the early completion of the great work as a measure more than ever necessary for imperial defense.

TO PREVENT WIRE TAPPING.—M. H. Discher, controller in the Austrian postal service, in a communication suggests a method for preventing the interception of messages in war time. He remarks that whereas it was formerly necessary to cut the line, the invention of the telephone now renders it possible to read every Morse signal passing along the line from a considerable distance by erecting a parallel line of short length with a telephone in circuit. He recommends the employment of the duplex system; one station sending the proper telegrams while the other transmits some text determined on beforehand. The signals then received by any instrument interposed on the line, or by a telephone on a neighboring or parallel line, will be so confused as to be unintelligible. He refers more especially to the employment of the Morse instrument, as this is the one most generally used in field operations.

JACKSONVILLE NOTES.—The epidemic is still on; very warm weather, unusually so for this time of the year. Acting Chief Operator W. J. Wallace was taken with Yellow Jack on November 2d, and his brother, Charley Wallace, our check boy, on October 28th. Both are doing well and conditions very favorable for their speedy recovery. Night Chief Rivers is officiating most of the day and night, assisted by Mr. V. G. Shearer. Superintendent Dillon has returned from Atlanta, where he has been recuperating for a few days. He looks very much improved. Sanford, Fla., office is and has been doing a great deal of relaying during the epidemic. It is ably presided over by that genial, clever Manager, H. M. Killian, assisted by Mr. Stoy, of Ocala. Yellow Jack is in Enterprise, just across the Lake, two miles from Sanford, but that doesn't scare Manager Killian. Palatka also has been doing the largest part of Jacksonville relaying. Mr. A. E. Heston, manager, handles the business assisted by his wife. Every body appreciates, and looks for the AGE. It is next to pay day in importance. The Augusta force has "dubbed" Mr. Sweeney "Lord Sackville."

BALTIMORE NOTES.—Your correspondent regrets that he inadvertently omitted in his former letter, the name of Mr. A. J. Wright, Manager of the Chamber of Commerce office, who has earned the confidence and good will of all the mem-

bers of that exchange, which was so well maintained by the late Fred Cook. I regret to state that Mr. F. W. Ganger, night manager, is ill at his residence with pneumonia, but at the last account he was on the improve, and his speedy recovery is anxiously looked for. Departures from this office are indeed a rare occurrence, therefore we regret the absence of Mr. W. B. Nelson who has decided to link his fortune with the western country. He is now in Chicago, and when he left this city he not only carried with him a good name, but the good will and wishes of all who knew him. W. H. Rolland, of Norfolk, Virginia, was in Baltimore a few days ago, and your correspondent had the pleasure of showing him the principal points of interest. Mr. Thomas J. Callan, who three years ago left the telegraph service on account of operators' cramp, obtained a position on the Police force, hoping thereby, at the expiration of his term, to have fully recovered, and resume his favorite profession; but before that time, God in his infinite wisdom saw proper to call him from this world of sorrow and misery. I offer up a prayer that he may now be patrolling the golden streets of Heaven. Did you read a certain article is a question that I have put to numerous subscribers of the AGE; their reply being almost invariably, no, I only glanced over the paper, and of course skipped over the very item that would have afforded them pleasure. I have found that the only way to ascertain the real value of a journal is to read it from beginning to end; therefore the last issue was no exception to the rule. In reading the Boston notes about the operator, who, while sending a special fell asleep and transmitted several times the words "not guilty," reminded me of an instance that occurred in New York a night or two previous to the blizzard. An operator who was sending to Chicago about 3 A. M., I will not mention this name, but I was very close to that wire at the time, a message came to him; the last two words of which were "to-morrow night." When he had sent the word "to-morrow," he passed into dreamland, and dreamed he was singing the song "Get away from that window." When he awoke and asked "Ch" to start him he was amazed to hear Chicago say "Ga" come around to-morrow night there's going to be a fight and the razors flying in the air. In the New York notes of the same issue we find that the meteoric electric coruscations of Mr. Dealy's wit show what the creative mind nourished in the inspiring atmosphere of a telegraph office. The heart of the man which failed to warm and expand under its genial influence, must indeed be made of bluestone; blue, as a symbol of morbidity, and stone to show its adamant hardness. In the Postal Company we find the following named persons: S. D. Sprigg, manager; F. J. Conner, chief operator; W. S. Sullivan, assistant chief; J. F. Groupp, night chief; G. J. Fischer, cashier; operators, F. A. Hilmer, J. J. Lawlor, W. V. Ardisson, G. W. Morris, H. Becker, J. B. Ward and R. J. Fields; E. C. Wamsley, receiving clerk; G. E. Thweatt, delivery clerk, Oyster and Fish District; Mr. H. C. Wooden, manager, assisted by J. H. Twyford; clerk, J. J. Pittinger. Federal Hill office, D. Hill, manager. Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Laake, manager; assistant, H. Siegman; Stock Exchange, Wm. Whitworth; Canton, R. J. Bauer, manager; Dry Goods District, J. Vogt, manager; Eutaw House, E. R. Stumpp, manager, days; G. J. Rhein, nights; Calverton Stock Yards, C. Kothe; Madison avenue office, S. J. Englis, days; G. F. Livingston, nights; American Building, E. B. Cole, manager, days; G. Green, nights. The only important change in the A. D. T. Company is the removal of their 7th District office from St. Mary's and Madison avenues to 321 Wilson street. Mr. J. Kohler is manager. The A. D. T. Company is one of the important factors of the telegraph in this city and we will in the future endeavor to do that department full justice and to see that its members are properly represented in the ELECTRIC AGE. "C. R."

The Western Union is erecting a copper circuit from New York to Jacksonville, Fla., the first wire of the kind erected in the South.



PHILADELPHIA W. U. NOTES.—There have been few changes in "Cu" office during the past year. Theo. Koenig resigned and is now working in Pittsburgh, Pa., with Postal. S. L. Wilson, formerly manager of branches has retired from the telegraph business to travel for a commission house, located in Philadelphia. J. W. Kates, formerly superintendent of the Southern County, at Richmond, Va., has been appointed superintendent of Philadelphia Local Telegraph Company with headquarters at S. E. corner 3d and Chestnut streets. The *personnel* of "Cu" is as follows: George Ryley, chief operator; R. C. Murray, Jr., assistant. The day force, H. O. Steltz, from Southern Telegraph Company; Frank E. Hutchison, Chas. Schmidt; A. G. DeGraff, split trick; Miss A. M. Conrad, of B. & O.; Miss C. R. Rensch Pat Nunan, one of the "old timers," night manager; Stephen W. Bohlen, cashier; Robert Atkinson, and Harry Mason, clerks; Thomas Scout was transferred to the main office. Last January, through the untiring efforts of Joseph E. Janney, a Society was organized for the benefit of operators who had the misfortune of getting sick and otherwise being incapacitated for work. After several preliminary meetings, the society was gotten thoroughly under way and is now in a healthy, financial condition. The benefits are \$7 per week; \$50 funeral benefits. It is called The Telegraphers' Aid Society of Philadelphia. We now have a list of 190 members, in good standing, with prospects of increasing in membership rapidly. Our first misfortune was the sickness and death of Miss Ella Weyman, of the main office, but there have been three cases of sickness since her death. The admission fee is \$1; dues 50 cents per month; meet every three months. President, Joseph E. Janney; Vice-President, Joseph Berrett; Corresponding Secretary, C. B. Wood; Financial Secretary, A. W. Ford; Treasurer, H. W. Hetzel and an Executive Committee of six, who, in conjunction with the officers, attend to the general management of the society. In January, 1889, there is expected to be quite an exciting meeting, on account of resolutions offered making a change in the "By-Laws," and opposition to some of the officers. The down towners, or branchers, don't like the main office to boss everything and run it to suit themselves, propose to try to divide honors more evenly. This should be done in a good natured way. I will try and gather up a few items when the next meeting is held, and I think some of the boys will enjoy seeing their actions in print. The ladies are in the society and are the best members. The Stock Exchange has moved into their new quarters in the Drexel Building. The telegraph offices have all been placed outside the board room, to prevent arbitrage dealing between the New York and Philadelphia Exchanges. Great dissatisfaction is manifest at this arrangement, and it is believed to be only a question of time when they will be moved inside. The telegraph offices are very badly arranged. It is quite evident that no practical telegraph man was consulted, when they were put up. The Postal appears to have the best location, and seem to be getting the bulk of the business from tenants in the building. The W. U. office is under the management of Mr. Eves; Mr. Parker, assistant; Charley Waters attends to the Mutual Union corner. The Postal is managed by Mr. Thomas, with Messrs. Johnson and Donald, assistants.

RICHMOND NOTES.—There have been a great many changes here within the past year, and perhaps it would be of interest to know the *personnel* of the office, which is as follows: Mr. F. D. Cudlipp is day chief, assisted by W. P. Cline, with the following corps of operators: R. L. Potts, Oscar McCullen, Geo. T. Harrison, W. D. Terrell, O. J. Thompson; J. "Bob" Johnson, Geo. J. Hundley, R. E. Hotze, J. B. Dobson, P. R. Wiggs, W. J. Francis, W. H. Padgett and Miss A. M. Kuyk. At night we have: Mr. W. C. Walstrum, chief, assisted by Mr. E. N. Dennis, with W. P. Buckley, H. S. Rady, J. E. Hall, C. B. Roden and S. R. Crowder; Mr. Jos.

Marshall is all night chief. Richmond is quite a repeating office, most of the long Southern circuits coming through here; among them Galveston, the Cuba cable circuits, Atlanta, Charleston and Savannah; the Cuba circuit is said to be the longest straight wire in the service, being 778 miles Richmond to Jacksonville without a repeater. Galveston is the longest duplex circuit in the world, being 1,900 miles in length. Mr. Padgett is at his home in Alexandria, where he has been for two months past, suffering from a severe attack of rheumatism. The Turf Exchange having closed, Mr. C. W. White will fondle the "Quad" until Mr. Padgett's recovery.

NEWARK NOTES.—Jabez Fearey, manager; E. O. Alyea, assistant, and the following operators: E. H. Hoffman, Ed. Coney, late of the B. & O., Tom Monaghan, M. McDonald, late of 195, and E. Duffy. Mr. White, formerly of this office is now with a broker in this city. On election night, the very heavy business was handled by an extra force composed of the following Newark operators: Main Office, Ed. O. Alyea, E. H. Hoffman, Ed. Coney, L. J. Howell, Ed. Duffy, M. McDonald, W. Wyman and F. Koellhoffer. Distributed among the outside offices and club rooms were: Mose Ritter, J. F. Randolph, Tom Monaghan and Messrs. Nesbitt, Miller and Swenwick. At the Central Railroad office, Broad street, we find F. P. Marshall, W. Corwin and Peter Dumont

The Postal Telegraph Company furnished a special wire for Chairman Quay and General Dudley, from their parlors in the Evelett House, New York, direct to General Harrison's house in Indianapolis. The wire was in use all Tuesday, until 4 A. M. Wednesday, and also Wednesday and Thursday evenings. The President-elect was thus placed in instant communication with his lieutenants in New York city, and was kept constantly and fully advised of the situation. These gentlemen, we understand, expressed themselves as being particularly well pleased with the service, and it is quite a feather in the cap of the Postal Co. The operators were Mr. John A. Henneberry, of the Postal Co's. office in the New York Stock Exchange, at Mr. Quay's rooms and Mr. F. Allen Hunter, formerly of the Indianapolis office, at Mr. Harrison's house.

The ELECTRIC AGE, of New York, has established a patent bureau in connection with that publication, for the transaction of a general business pertaining to patents. This department is in charge of Mr. J. B. Sabine, a gentleman well-known to most electricians. Mr. Sabine has grown up with the telegraph business, and at the same time has kept abreast of the times. His experience as a patent attorney covers several years, so that this knowledge, of itself, is most valuable. Mr. Sabine is capable and thorough, and can be trusted with electrical cases of the most intricate and difficult character.—*Railway Service Gazette*.

Miss Hattie McPherson, of the C. P. R., Gault, Ont., was in Toronto recently and the guest of Miss Thorley.

Mr. J. Shoemaker has assumed the late Mr. Card's position at the Walker House, Toronto, Ont.

Mr. E. B. King, formerly chief operator of the W. U. Jacksonville, Fla., is in town.

D. H. Gray, from Washington Market, is now at 16 Broad street.

MARRIED.—C. E. Arnold, general manager of the Commercial Union Telegraph Company, Albany, New York, was married a few days since to Miss Charlier, formerly of a broker office, in New York. They are now traveling in California.

MARRIED.—Court M. Cunningham to Miss Laura L. Briggs, on October 31st. Both are members of the Western Union, 195 Broadway force.

BORN.—To Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell, of Auburn, N. Y., a 11½ pound boy.



WESTERN UNION NOTES.—A scene of greater animation than that presented on the night of the Presidential election has seldom, if ever, been witnessed in this or any other office. That the presence of the ladies is responsible for much of it there can be no doubt. The great variety of costumes, many of which were handsome, some elegant, as well as expensive, and all of them more or less becoming to the wearers, lent a charm to the scene that was as irresistible as it was grand. The display of colors of their favorite candidates—for the ladies were as patriotic as the sterner sex—brightened the effect perceptibly. A great many ladies decorated their desks with flags and roosters. Wagers of gloves, candy, etc., were numerous, and some of the ladies, among whom were Miss Hattie Ford, Miss Dickson, Miss Saunders, Miss Fillhardt, Mrs. Fones, Miss Pope and many others will be well supplied for some time to come. Down in that portion of the room where in the day time the Wheatstone operators hold full sway, stood a table, on either side of which 10 giant sounders were arranged in line. Surrounding it were the following operators, no one of whom needs an introduction to our readers: W. H. Gavigan, J. T. Collins, F. T. Meyer, Ed. Risdon, J. Kihm, W. H. Rolfe, J. H. Hutchinson, H. I. Jolly, Max Green, E. P. Griffith, H. J. Richardson, P. H. Freyer, A. J. Heldman, Harvey W. Dutcher, Harry Heritage, Will Stewart, J. Martin, Ed. Dean, Robert Morton and James M. Foster. To these gentlemen George W. Patterson was sending as fine-Morse as was ever copied. To David B. Mitchell, the well known chief of the Race Bureau, who had charge of this department, much credit is due for the able manner in which the work was done. The number of bulletins issued and distributed aggregated 70,200. The service was excellent. Seated behind a second table but a short distance away were such distinguished gentlemen as General Manager Eckert, General Superintendent Tinker, Superintendent A. S. Brown, W. J. Holmes, Vice-President William Van Horn, Manager Dealy, Assistant Manager Brennan, William Henry Smith, of the Associated Press, and last, but not least, the well-known Press Agent William B. Somerville and General Wire Chief Fred W. Baldwin. At the switch Messrs. Sabine, Anson and Sheehan looked after the Western section; Mr. Hallock, the Pittsburg; Mr. Hoyt, the Jersey; Messrs. Gregory and Baker the South, and Messrs. Kennedy and Russell Riley, the East. The loop system throughout the city, one of the largest known in the history of the company, was in charge of Chief Operator Howell. George W. Gardanier took excellent care of the newspaper loops. There was friction nowhere. Each knowing what he or she was expected to do, performed that part well. The remarkable smoothness with which this was accomplished shows to what degree of perfection the discipline of the office has attained. The demand for operators was great. More than 100 were assigned to various headquarters of political organizations to take returns, some of them going as far East as Bridgeport, Conn. William A. Van Order, one of the best known operators in the city, had charge of no less than 15 at O'Rourke's newspaper agency. But for the ladies, many of whom remained until nearly 3 o'clock A. M., it is difficult to see how the work could have been performed without them. Relieved at that hour they retired to private offices down stairs where they sought a few hours repose after which they returned to the operating room and began their day's work. Traffic chiefs pounded the floor almost incessantly. They were to all appearances the busiest people in the room. Frank A. Eastman, in charge of the Western throughs, had his hands more than full. In the division over which he has control, the returns from not less than 27 States were handled in a manner most satisfactory to all. Mr. Keith, assistant night chief in the city department, whose illness, described in a previous issue, was of so serious a character as to compel his retirement from business, has we are pleased to say, entirely regained his health. Mr. Van Cura has relinquished with considerable reluctance the 6 A. M. to 3 P. M. trick, for the 11:30 A. M. to

9 P. M. trick. Mr. Sam Morrison of the latter trick takes Van's place. Frank Wood, who for a month past has been rusticated in New Jersey and Pennsylvania, has returned. Ed Morrison has gone on the day force. On election day the entire force in the Wheatstone Department had their pictures taken in a group. James Buxton, who for more than three years past has worked the Jersey City wire nights, mourns the loss of a brother, who while in the performance of his duty as mate of a sailing vessel, was accidentally knocked overboard and drowned in the Delaware Breakwater a few days ago: "Jim", as Mr. Buxton is familiarly known to a host of friends throughout the city, has the sympathy of all. William Gavigan and Miss Grace Mitchell, well-known operators here, were quietly married a few days ago. We extend to the happy couple our sincere and heartfelt congratulations. Nat Beow, one of the best hearted little men in the business, has gone on the regular night force. His successor on the 1 to 8 A. M. force is Lou N. Kirschbaum of the former trick. Dick Lounsbury has returned to his first love, the Washington quad days. Walter Perkins, who is sustaining with credit both to himself and the management a character in John A. Herne's "Drifting Apart Co.," stopped over Sunday before last long enough, while enroute to Connecticut, to shake hands with his many friends here. Mr. Topping, the jolly heavy weight in the Jersey division, is authority for the routing of almost every place heretofore unheard of on Long Island. What he doesn't know of Long Island isn't worth knowing. T. W. Greene, after a weeks trial of day work, is convinced that night work is good enough for him. Geo. Blood, who for three years past has worked the first Boston quad, has been rewarded with an easier wire—the Mutual Union duplex to the Hub. Mr. Kunkle has gone on the day force. Mr. Rogers takes his place on Boston, nights. Mr. Hoffman has taken the split trick for a month. Mr. J. J. Murray has returned from Blue Mountain Lake. Mr. J. F. Falkenbury, from the Laurel House, Catskill Mountains, a well-known operator, has been added to the force.

TRANSFERS.—W. M. Barr, Knapp, Wis., to Norton, Kans.; R. J. Rockwell, San Francisco, Cal., to Detroit, Mich.; W. F. Muth, San Diego, Cal., to Philadelphia, Pa.; F. L. Carter, St. Louis to Chicago; C. D. Duffey, Cincinnati, Ohio, to Atlanta, Ga., for the W. U.

Mr. P. E. Kane, lately agent and operator on the Brooklyn Elevated road, has been deservedly promoted to be superintendent of the electrical department of the company, with headquarters at 31 Sands street.

The Ready Relief Association of the employes of the Brooklyn and Union elevated roads of Brooklyn, will give its second annual ball, at the Palace Rink, on December 6th.

Mr. N. G. Taylor received election returns at Postal office, Weedsport, N. Y., and gave general satisfaction to the populace of that locality.

Mr. John E. Wright, a well-known old time telegrapher, has returned to London, Eng., where he will represent The United Press.

W. M. Spear, of Saratoga, has transferred to New York City and is located at the *Telegram* office for The United Press.

Mr. Addison C. Thomas, superintendent of the Western Associated Press Telegraph System, Chicago, Ills., is in town.

Mr. J. D. Hinnant, of the Central Cable office, has resigned and accepted a position with the Standard Oil Company.

Charles F. Whitney, formerly with the W. U., has accepted a position with the Postal, in Boston, Mass.

Mr. A. A. Wyllie, of Los Angeles, has been promoted to the managership of the Santa Ana, Cal. office.

B. A. Hummel, of Milwaukee, has gone to Helena, Mont., for the N. P. Ry.



PECULIAR ERRORS.—A New England paper told about "a drove of hogs floating down the Connecticut River," instead of "a drive of logs."

An editor discussed the political situation in a comprehensive editorial and headed it, "Let us Explore." He neglected to read the proof and it appeared under this caption, "Let us Explode."

In a lecture at Boston the Rev. Joseph Cook asked his audience—"Was St. Paul a Dupe?" In a report of the lecture Mr. Cook was made to propound this startling conundrum—"Was St. Paul a Dude?"

An Indiana paper found it necessary to publish the following correction: "For 'burglar meeting' in the heading of the article in our last issue relating to the proceedings of the Town Council, read 'regular meeting.'"

It was a Boston newspaper which made its dramatic critic say: "The toast for Irving like the toast for olives, must be cut elevated." What the critic wrote was: "The taste for Irving, like the taste for olives, must be cultivated."

Not long ago a telegraph operator found the words *orates fratres* in a special dispatch about the "praying brothers." It is not definitely known whether the telegraphist or the compositor attempted to translate the words, but it is certain that they appeared in the paper as "Oh, rats, father."

A recent society novel depicted a pretty two-headed boy playing on the "green," secure from hunters of curiosities and agents of traveling museums. The boy was not such a natural phenomenon as he seemed, however, for a simple transposition of two letters had changed him from a "tow-headed" youngster into one with duplicate heads.

WANTS THE LEASE SET ASIDE.—Charles W. Brega has filed a bill in the Circuit Court at Chicago to have the lease of the Board of Trade Telegraph Company to the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company set aside on the alleged ground of fraud. E. S. Stokes of New York, L. D. Parker, Dwight Townsend, Henry A. Gardner, Frank Gilbert, the Board of Trade Telegraph Company, the United Lines Telegraph Company and the Postal-Telegraph Cable Company, are made defendants to the suit. Mr. Brega is a member of the Chicago Board of Trade. He charges that Stokes, Parker, Townsend and Gilbert, secured a questionable title of 475 shares of the stock of the Board of Trade Company, and that Stokes elected himself, Parker, Gilbert and Townsend directors, and as an executive committee leased the Board of Trade Company to the Postal Telegraph-Cable Company at an annual rental of \$5,000. Brega charges that the figure is ridiculously low, and was permitted by Stokes for the purpose of depressing the Board of Trade Telegraph Company's stock and freezing out the defendants. Brega prays in his suit that the lease be annulled; that the Cable Company account for and pay the actual value of the use of the plant since 1886, to be distributed as dividends, and that a receiver be appointed for the Board of Trade Company to prevent its absorption for less than its real value by Stokes.

At the Western Union and Postal Telegraph offices there are large forces employed at night in both instances. Taking advantage of the half rate, thousands of dollars worth of the business pours over the counters after six o'clock in the evening. The great volume of dispatches handled for the morning newspapers, too, require many intelligent and fast operators. There are about 250 night operators in Chicago, says the *Tribune* of that city. The majority are young men, but some are gray haired veterans whose years of service at the key ought to demand their retirement on a pension roll—something not yet established, by the way. There is a fascination in pounding the key or transcribing its clickings to paper when the world is sleeping that exerts so potent an influence that these veterans cannot break away from it. "I have tried day jobs half a dozen times," said one, "but I couldn't accustom myself to the increased whirl and rattle and activity, so I always drifted back to the old way. I have grown up in that way. I was a night messenger boy in New York years ago, and have held down town

night sits almost continuously since that time, so that it isn't to be wondered at that I love the darkness, and not because my deeds are evil, either."

VICTORY FOR THE WESTERN UNION.—Chief Justice Fuller on October 22, delivered his first opinion in the Supreme Court of the United States. The case was that of the Western Union Telegraph Company, versus the commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The commonwealth levied a tax on all telegrams passing over the company's lines within the State, this tax being imposed regardless of the fact that much of the business was not confined wholly to the State, but was to points in other States. The Supreme Court held through Chief Justice Fuller that the State was not entitled to collect a tax except for messages between points within the borders of the State, and accordingly reserved the judgment of the State Court with costs, and remanded the case to the lower court for further proceedings.

A letter has been sent to the railroad and telegraph companies affected by the act placing the telegraph lines of the railroads, which received Government aid, under the control of the Inter-State Commission, calling attention to the fact that they have not complied with the provision of the act requiring them to file with the commission copies of contracts and other information relative to the use of these telegraph lines. The roads are required, among other things, to report whether they maintain a telegraph line as required by the charter act and whether that line is allowed to be used by all persons and corporations without discrimination.

AN EXPENSIVE LINE.—The telegraph line from Poplar River to Fort Maginnis, in the Department of Dakota, 232 miles in length, is the most costly of all the telegraph lines connected with the military service. The intervening country is wild and desolate in the extreme and generally without inhabitants, so that at Galpin, the repair station, this service is obliged to maintain, at an expense of \$1,630 per year, two civilian repairmen, since one will not live there alone. The total receipts from the line during the past year were \$155.17, while the cost to the Government for maintaining and operating the section is over \$4,000 annually.

TO REVOLUTIONIZE TELEGRAPHY.—There has lately been invented a new system of synchronism which, it is claimed, will make it cheaper to telegraph messages than to mail them. Dr. J. Harris Rogers, of Washington, D. C., is the inventor, and he claims that the world will be almost revolutionized by this discovery. In the meantime, however, operators are advised not to resign their positions or become anxious. It might happen that this invention will be placed in the long procession of similar devices which have revolutionized the telegraph business in years gone by, but only in the diseased brains of the inventors.

The generous action of the New York *World* in getting up a fund for the benefit of the telegraphers who so courageously remained at their posts during the yellow fever scourge cannot be to highly commended. We know Mr. Pulitzer long before fame had made his name familiar to the world, and now as then, his heart still beats in the right place. The gallant conduct of the Jacksonville telegraphers very justly claims the admiration of all good men.—*Railway Service Gazette*.

HE KILLED A TELEGRAPHER.—James Talmage, son of the late general manager of the Wabash Railway, was found guilty at Keytesville, Mo., a few days ago, of murder in the second degree, for killing C. P. Tidd, telegraph operator at Brunswick, Mo., last January, during a quarrel over orders for the train of which young Talmage was conductor. The punishment was fixed at twenty-one years in the Penitentiary.

The second trial of the suit of the Commercial Telegram Company to obtain an injunction restraining the New York Stock Exchange from removing the stock quotation tickers of the company from the floor of the exchange, was begun a few days ago before Judge Andrews in special term of the Supreme Court.



## BUSINESS NOTICES.

Type-writer operators will find Cooke's improved "holder" a great convenience. No breaking or assistance, required to change sheets. Takes any number of single or manifold sheets. See advertisement.

## PAMPHLETS RECEIVED.

THE SLOJD IN THE SERVICE OF THE SCHOOL; (pamphlet) by Otto Salomon, Ph. D., price 20 cents. Industrial Education Association, New York.

RECENT ADVANCES IN ELECTRICITY, edited by Henry Greer, illustrated; price \$1.00. New York Agent, College of Electrical Engineering.

W. H. Preece, of England, says the telegraphic system of England has been brought to the highest pitch of perfection. We have neither neglected the inventions of other countries, nor have we been chary of exercising inventive skill ourselves, and we have received our full meed of that reward which is always freely bestowed on a British government official—neglect and abuse.

THE TELEGRAPHER BLAMED.—The Coroners jury at Kansas City, Oct. 30th, held J. H. Reeves, night telegraph operator at Lawson, responsible for the fatal collision near Randolph. Reeves, who was either asleep or absent when the freight train passed, has disappeared.

Prince Bismarck gave a fete last week to his servants and tenants at Friedrichsruh to celebrate the dispatch to Berlin of 5,000 telegraph posts, which makes 100,000 which have been supplied to the State during the last ten years from the Chancellor's forest there.

A NEW CABLE FOR CUBA.—The Spanish Government has issued a decree granting to Don Augusto Ghirlanda y Hernandez a concession for the laying and working of a submarine cable between the Island of Cuba and the peninsula of Yucatan (Mexico).

SIR JOHN PENDER.—On Tuesday Sir John Pender was presented with the freedom of the Burgh of Dingwall, England, in recognition of his eminent services to the county in connection with the extension of submarine telegraphy throughout the world.

The Brotherhoods of Locomotive Engineers, Firemen, Conductors, Brakemen and Switchmen, and Railroad Telegraphers, will undoubtedly go into a grand combination, while preserving their present autonomy. It is only a question of details now.

The Western Union Telegraph Company states that the subways which had been constructed along the line of the Steam Heating Company's pipes are practically useless for its purposes, and that the heat from the steam destroyed the cables.

Patrick Leahy, 27 years old, a lineman of 330 East 25th street., while repairing an electric light wire on 6th Avenue, a few days since, was slightly burned on both hands. He was attended at the New York Hospital and sent home.

THE SPOONER TELEGRAPH BILL.—The Spooner Telegraph Bill, which many telegraph people suppose became law on November 1st, failed to pass the House. The Senate had acted favorably upon the measure.

We believe thorough investigation will show that a very large proportion of the railroad accidents which are attributed to the carelessness of employes is really the result of over work.—*Railway Service Gazette*.

The headquarters of the Eight District, Eastern Division, Charles O. Rowe, superintendent, have been transferred from Titusville to Pittsburgh, Pa.

The directors of the New England Telegraph and Telephone Company have declared the regular quarterly dividend of 75 cents per share.

## VALUABLE BOOKS AS PREMIUMS.

For two new cash subscriptions we will send a copy of Elmer E. Vance's new railway romance, "Nellie Harland" to any address in the world. This is an excellent opportunity to secure a splendid book for a little labor.

LIGHTNING FLASHES AND ELECTRIC DASHES.—A volume of choice telegraphic literature, humor, fun, wit and wisdom, profusely illustrated, 160 large, double column pages, cloth. Price \$1.00. The contents comprise short, bright, crisp, ably-written stories and sketches from the pens of the foremost writers in the ranks of telegraphic literature, as well as several prominent writers outside of the business. One article alone, that by Benson J. Lossing, L. L. D., the well-known historian and personal friend of Professor Morse, is well worth the entire price of the volume, as it contains a brief life of the Father of the Telegraph with which every operator in the land should be thoroughly familiar. Will be sent any address on receipt of \$1.00 in cash or on receipt of two new yearly cash subscriptions.

WIRED LOVE; a romance of dots and dashes, by Ella Cheever Thayer, 256 pages, handsomely bound in cloth. Price 75 cents. Mailed to any address on receipt of price. Four different editions of this admirable telegraphic love story have been published, which fact demonstrates its popularity, both in and out of the profession. The book is cordially recommended to telegraphers as a most entertaining, bright, sprightly and amusing work. This book will be mailed to any address as a premium on receipt of \$3 worth of new cash subscriptions. Copies of any of these or any other books promptly mailed to any address in the world, postage prepaid, on receipt of price. Remit by Postal Note, Post-Office Order, Draft, Registered Letter or Express. Address J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey street, New York.

PICTORIAL CHRISTMAS NUMBER.—The Christmas number of the ELECTRIC AGE will be pictorial in character. It will comprise about forty pages, one half of which will be given up entirely to pictures of the prominent telegraph people of to-day. The quality of paper used will be the best, to admit of the pictures being framed. We have already, fully fifty engravings in hand, including Professor Morse, James D. Reid, A. B. Chandler, John W. Mackay, J. H. Emerick, Superintendents Humstone, Rowe, Wright, Gifford, Wallick, Cochrane and many others. Secretary Brewer, G. G. Ward, of the Commercial; John Brown, of the Direct; S. F. Austin, of the French Cables; Manager Dealy and Assistant Manager Brennan, of New York, and Manager Lloyd, of Chicago, besides many others. There will be no extra charge to subscribers for this issue, but those desiring extra copies can procure them at twenty-five cents each. As only 1,000 extra copies will be printed unless previously ordered, it will be well to order those desired as soon as possible.

Hundreds of copies of the ELECTRIC AGE are being sent out as samples for the purpose of inducing those interested in becoming permanent subscribers. Those who receive copies of these samples will confer a favor on us by handing them to non-subscribers, with a suitable recommendation to the recipients to aid in the support of the journal of the craft by subscribing. Those who desire sample copies forwarded to friends should send us the names and addresses and we will gladly comply with the requests.

THE AGE AT RETAIL.—Copies of the AGE dating back three years can be had upon forwarding 10 cents per copy to this office. Bound volumes will be furnished for \$2.50; one year's papers to a volume. Single copies of the paper 10 cents.

Address: J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey St., New York.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.—Inform the messenger boys that a new assortment of holiday greetings are being made up, and that samples will be furnished on receipt of a two cent stamp. Address J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey street, New York.



P. R. R. NOTES.—Mr. O'Donnel, of 35th street, N. Y., is now away on vacation. Joe Russell is at 55 Broadway; Mr. Leavy, at Yard Office, Jersey City. At "J," the general business office, W. Tolson is manager; W. W. Horn, assistant; operators, Misses Hughes, True, Hasson and Halligan, Messrs. Potter, Geo. True, Frank Taylor, Henry True, and A. A. Plant, night manager, assisted by Mr. E. B. Stout; Messrs. Burns and Kline at Newark avenue; F. Michaeli, at "Ho;" Hugo Beck at "H. B.," nights, and F. F. Kruse, to "Ws" Meadows, days; E. E. Creely, formerly of "J" at "OX" days, and Mr. McDonald, formerly of "OX" goes with the N. Y., N. H. and H. E. G. Ryan, at "Gy," nights; Messrs. Smith, Schenck and Clifford at "Ky." The letters represent block stations between Jersey City and Newark.

The Christmas Number of the ELECTRIC AGE, will contain at least sixty-five pictures of the prominent telegraph people of to-day. Those subscribing now will receive that issue without extra charge. The retail price of that number will be twenty-five cents. It will be a valuable souvenir.

#### OPPOSITION NEEDED IN THE SOUTH.

THE POSTAL SHOULD BE URGED TO HASTEN TO NEW ORLEANS WITH ITS SYSTEM.

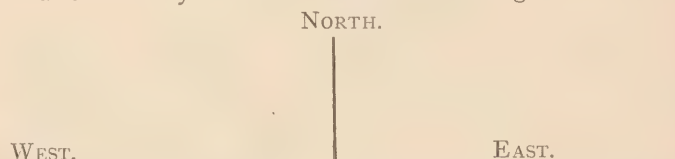
The Postal Telegraph Company, no doubt, is making a good profit which is in itself a plume in President Chandler's cap, for it is certainly due to his efficient and economical administration. There is a certain territory, however, which is usually neglected by all companies and to our mind is an extremely profitable one. We refer to the southern states along the Atlantic coast and as far as New Orleans. The Postal system reaches London, Paris, Liverpool, Berlin and other important cities on the continent of Europe, it extends to San Francisco in the west, and to Montreal and British Columbia in the north, while there is not one mile of wire south of Washington. If for no other reason than to furnish a connection for the Commercial Cables with New Orleans, Savannah, Charleston and other southern cities, the Postal ought to extend its wires. Of course our object in urging the extension of lines is to provide good places for the excellent men it has in its employ, who are capable of gathering together for the company a good revenue on the money invested in a plant. At the same time we are not slow to recognize the fact that the southern people are always glad to welcome opposition and for a long period they have made overtures without apparent success. Probably their hearty welcome frightens the opposition companies off, but they are sincere nevertheless. The opening up of this territory would give employment to between five hundred and one thousand operatives.

The Baltimore and Ohio Company reached New Orleans, but it did so *via* Galveston, Texas, a circuitous route which at once destroyed its usefulness. It may have been their intention to build north from New Orleans, tapping the Atlantic Coast cities and towns enroute, but any definite movement in that direction never manifested itself to those on the outside.

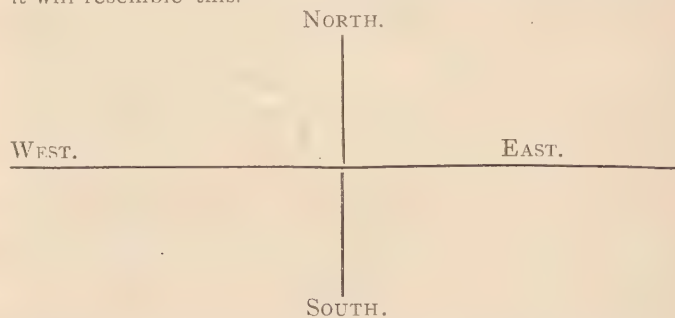
The Southern company was always considered the monkey to the Western Union organ, but even that did not prevent the southern people from extending it ample support, until the mask was thrown off, after the Baltimore and Ohio absorption, by the Western Union Company itself. No man is more thoroughly familiar with the importance of the above named points than Mr. Chandler. Indeed this section is a vital link in his chain of success, inasmuch as the cable connection would place the leading cotton markets of the world in direct communication with the European market, with a choice of two routes. When this link is completed, and we have no hesitancy in declaring that it will be some day, Mr. Chandler will then control an opposition system more important than even the defunct Baltimore and Ohio in its palm-

iest days, with its greater wire mileage, etc. New York which has heretofore been the eastern terminus of opposition companies will be the centre of the vast net work of wire, land and submarine, composing the Postal system.

The Postal system now resembles this diagram:



By adding an arm to the system, extending Southward it will resemble this.



The South has too long been neglected and we give voice to its cry for relief and urge upon the Postal—the real opposition—to hasten to the rescue. The reward is certain and only awaits its coming. The Southern papers are teeming with complaints of the meagre telegraph facilities afforded that section, and while the Western Union is at last making a move to relieve the pressure by the erection of two new copper wires, the feeling for opposition remains. We have every reason to believe that the Postal Company could through a proper representative, secure valuable concessions, pledges, rights of way, free office room, etc., etc., from the Boards of Trade of all the Southern cities. In fact we know they could. Try it.

A young man sat at a telegraph instrument sending a message to Boston. It went on beautifully for a while, and the Boston man had no trouble to get it all.

Then it slackened a little, and finally it became somewhat spasmodic and seemed to have passed into a cipher dispatch.

For a moment or two the Boston operator sat listening to the quotations from the alphabet which the young man in New York was ticking to him, and then his patience gave out.

He sent a red-hot message to the young man in New York, and wanted to know what in several exclamation points he meant by all this stuff. No response. Only a feeble little instalment of the alphabet, without rhyme or reason.

The Boston man stopped the current.

This seemed to have had an effect on the young man in New York for a moment after, this message ticked merrily on the Boston man's ear:

"Dont mind anything sent for the last few minutes. I have been asleep."

The New York operator, who had sat up late with a well friend the night before, had gone to sleep at the instrument, and mechanically worked the button. When the current was broken it woke him up.—*N. Y. Evening World.*

WANTED.—A practical young man for telephone service in Panama, understanding care of apparatus and line building; under contract one or two years at salary of \$50 per month with board and lodgings and passage from New York and return. Must sail hence November 20th. Knowledge of Spanish not necessary. Address in writing with references, T. J. S., ELECTRIC AGE office.



## THE ANNUAL RECEPTION OF THE BROOKLYN TELEGRAPHERS

will be held on Monday evening, December 3, at Rivers' Academy, corner State and Court streets, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Efforts are being made to make this an exceptionally pleasant gathering. Prominent telegraphers of both cities are interested.

Judge Shepherd, of the Supreme Court, of North Carolina, is an old telegrapher. He read law while working for a railroad as an operator.

Mr. B. C. Elder formerly with the Chesapeake and Ohio at Huntington, W. Va., now has a position with the Western Union at Wichita, Kansas.

## THE ELECTRIC AGE PATENT BUREAU.

For the purpose of accommodating our friends we have made arrangements with Mr. John B. Sabine for the transaction of a general patent business.

Mr. Sabine has made electrical patents a specialty, and the success with which he has met during the past few years is the best evidence of his qualifications. He is also well-known to the entire fraternity, and can therefore be addressed with the utmost freedom, every communication being strictly confidential.

Thoroughness and promptness with the greatest care observed in all cases.

The prosecution of applications for patents in the United States and all foreign countries, Re-issues, Caveats, Trade Marks, Copyrights, Designs and Labels promptly and carefully attended to.

We will be glad to furnish copies of any United States patents on receipt of 25 cents each.

Our charges will be moderate and satisfactory in every respect.

Special searches instituted when desired to determine the question of novelty or infringement.

Address J. B. Sabine, Manager ELECTRIC AGE Patent Bureau, 5 Dey Street, New York.

Correspondence solicited.

DIED.—Robert H. Russell, a well-known and popular telegrapher, of Newark, N. J., died at his home in Middletown, N. Y., on Oct. 26, of heart disease; aged 19 years. The young man had only been complaining for three weeks, his trouble being a heart difficulty, which caused him to give up his employment and return home. His illness developed and for a week he suffered very much. He was well-known along the Erie road, and his numerous friends will regret to learn of his death. The funeral was largely attended by his associates and friends.

THE COMMERCIAL NEWS DEPARTMENT.—This department is an important branch of the Western Union's service. The peculiarity of the business requires of those employed therein, familiarity with its different branches, promptness, and above all, steadiness; at the absence of employes, on account of their limited number, is apt to materially interfere with the business. The fact that the C. N. D., is one of the most skilfully conducted branches of the service, is an evidence that only employes possessing the above requirements are employed in it. Mr. W. J. Dealey, who so ably manages the general operating and cable departments also, notwithstanding his multifarious duties, watches over the C. N. D. Mr. Gardner Irving and Charles L. Chase, the chiefs, are extremely popular on account of their urbane and courteous treatment of the employes under them. Mr. D. Work also assists on the floor. The personnel is as follows: Philadelphia Stock wire: Ed. Dean, Robert Marrin, W. H. Rolfe and A. Randolph; Boston stock wire, S. H. Jolly, Mrs. C. Cunningham and C. M. Jones; Chicago stocks, Ed. Risdon, B. F. Bunce and H. J. Richardson; Syracuse, Mr. Van Tassell; Philadelphia and Baltimore Cotton and Financial, P. J. O'Halloran; Buffalo grain, C. J. Power; Cincinnati, F. T. Meyer; Oil City, W. W. Walsh; New York oil wire, Miss Alice Forsen; Kiernan's News, L. Ruthrauff; Produce Exchange, Harry C. Rathbone and John Stevens; Chicago financial, H. I. Jolly; Cotton Exchange, John S. Fisher and Miss Ella Marks; Chicago and Philadelphia grain, T. J. Young and J. J. Kihm, alternating; Coffee Exchange, Miss Lillian Martell; transmitters, C. W. Williams, W. G. Wilgus, Walter Williamson, Mrs. Crans, Misses Jennie Catlin and Julia Marks; Clerks, W. J. Mott, F. Carver, Thomas Shaughness, Miss Susan Goldie, Miss Kruger; bookkeeper A. G. Waring; Cable news, Bryan Grant and A. Smith.

Thomas A. Edison, the inventor, has petitioned the Courts to restrain the "Edison Polyform" Company from displaying his portrait in advertising their specialty in the newspapers. He says he has no desire to be another Lydia Pinkham.

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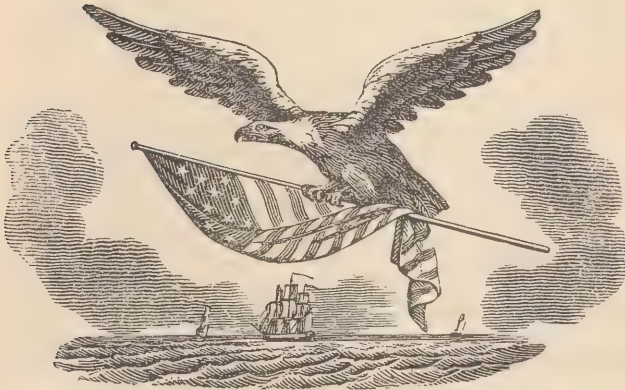
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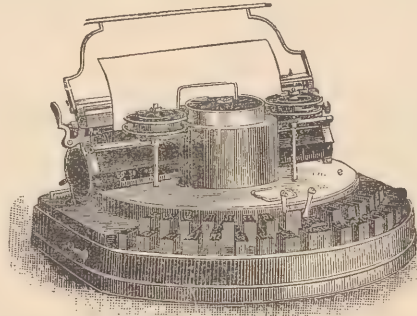
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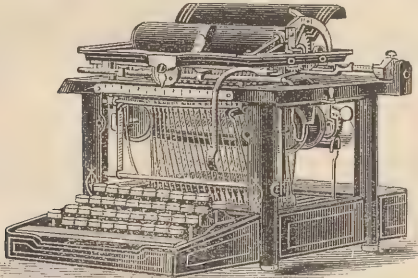
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Yours, truly, W. A. MCALLISTER and A. J. BOOTH, Telegraph Staff.

SUN OFFICE, New York, Sept. 19th, 1887.

GENTLEMEN: About two months ago I received a No. 2 REMINGTON machine to practice on. It wasn't in the office more than half an hour before all hands, from the editors down to the office devil, had written their names and at the next meeting of the *Evening Sun* Association, the "REMINGTON" was unanimously voted a "dandy," and a valuable acquisition to the office. I am now able to write from 40 to 45 words per minute, and would rather miss my Sunday dinner than be without it.  
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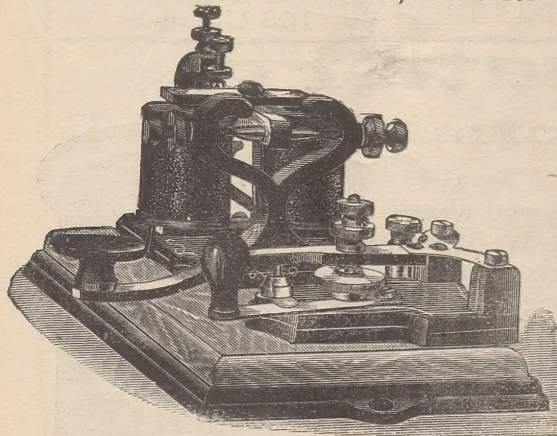
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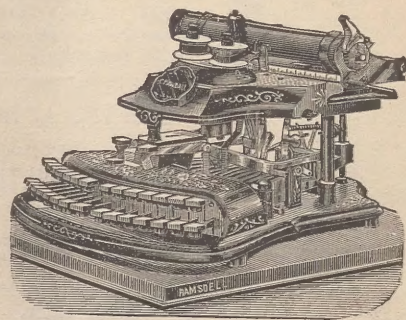
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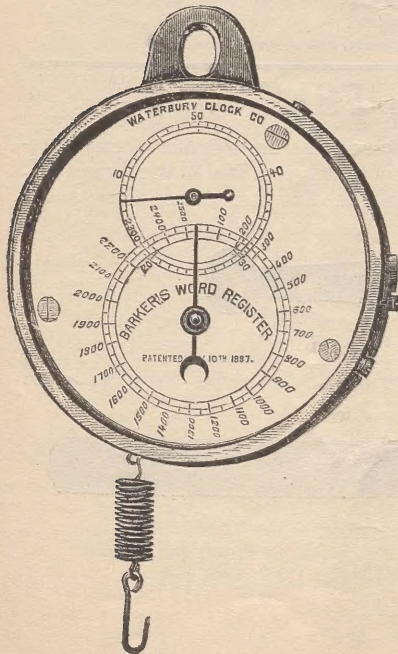
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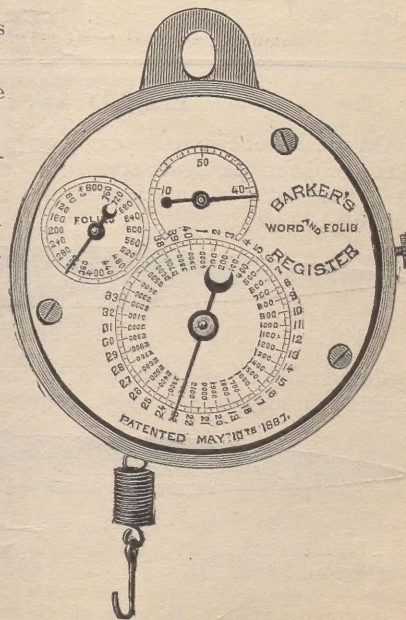
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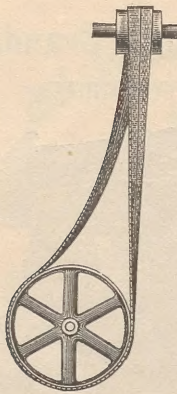
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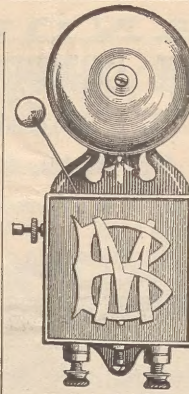
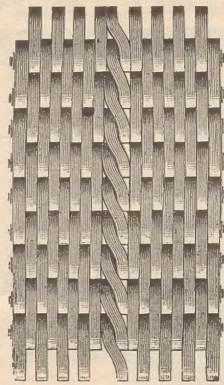
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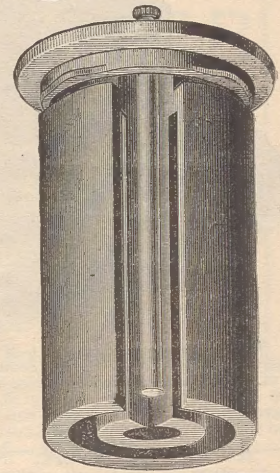
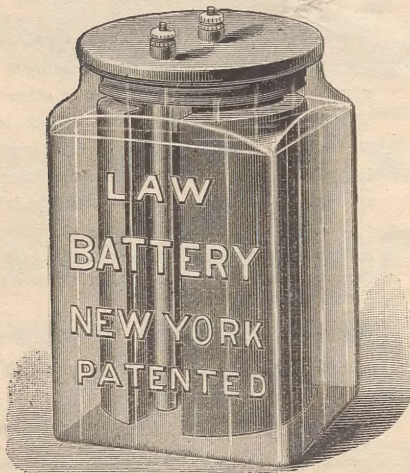
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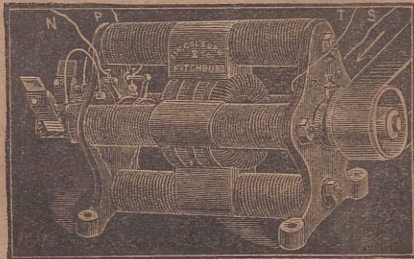
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