

H. U. Jackson

THE ELECTRIC AGE.

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

VOL. VI—No. 16.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 16, 1889.

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Single copies 10 cents.

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106 and 108 Liberty Street,

NEW YORK

Telegraph

Instruments

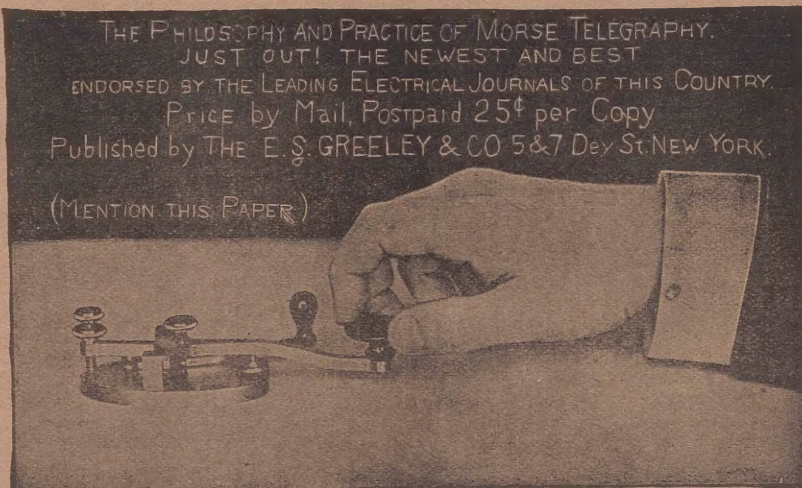
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SPECIAL NOTICE.—To any TELEGRAPH OPERATOR in the UNITED STATES or CANADA, sending us his Office Address or other satisfactory evidence of his profession, together with 12 cents in postage stamps or otherwise, we will forward by mail, postpaid, a copy of the above book, entitled *The Philosophy and Practice of Morse Telegraphy*, just issued.

WHAT THE ELECTRICAL PRESS SAY:

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“A rational and practical guide for the young telegrapher, intended to make him acquainted early in his career with a few underlying facts and laws that usually, without specific study, only come to his knowledge after years of service and practical observation.”—*The Electrical World*, March 24th, '88.

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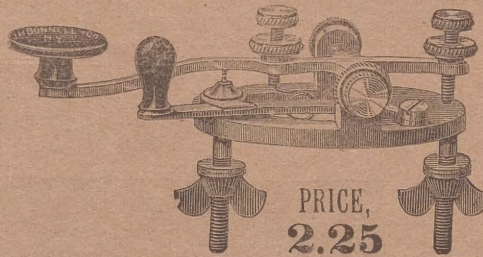
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Telegraphers cannot fail to have noticed that upon the introduction of the BUNNELL STEEL LEVER KEY four years since, it at once achieved a vast popularity, such as never before attached to any specialty in Telegraph Instruments, and that this popularity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

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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:

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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.

Guaranteed to be unequalled in Manifolding capacity.

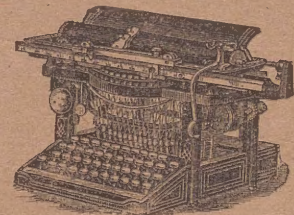
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NEW YORK, Aug. 2, '88. Highest speed on correspondence.

TORONTO, Aug. 13, '88. (Intern'l 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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Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,

327 Broadway, New York.

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Published on the 1st and 16th of every month.

Entered as Second-class Mail Matter.

Registered Cable Address
"ELECTAGE" NEW YORK.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION :

One Copy, one year.	\$1 50
One Copy, six months	.75
Great Britain and other Countries,	2.00

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We invite correspondence from members of the profession and solicit articles from manufacturers for publication. Subscribers should promptly notify us of any change in their addresses, giving the old as well as the new one, that they may receive all the papers they pay for.

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Births, Marriages, Deaths and other Notices, 50 cents each.

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F. E. DOLBIER, Manager, Advertising Dept.
J. B. SABINE, Manager Patent Bureau,
No. 5 Dey St., New York.
W. J. ANDERSON, Agent, 7 Wellington St. East, Toronto, Ont.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 16, 1889.

A GREAT TELEGRAPH SUIT.

A great telegraph suit will be proceeded with very shortly, at Harrisburg, Pa. For over a year Attorney General Kilpatrick has been quietly gathering information that would warrant him in bringing a suit against the Western Union Telegraph Company, the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company and the Baltimore and Ohio Company, of Pennsylvania, with a view to having their stocks, lines and franchises forfeited to the State because of their violation of the Constitution. The former for buying a competing line and the two latter for selling out to the Jay Gould party, thus consolidating the three. He has filed a paper making the three companies defendants, wherein he charges that on October 5, 1887, the Western Union bought the entire capital stock of the Baltimore and Ohio, 38,750 shares for the par value of \$3,875 for \$5,000,000. As the Western Union was a competing line in that State, the Attorney General claims a decree of forfeiture of the three companies' stocks, lines and franchises in that State.

After reciting the facts he suggests that the Court award a writ of quo warranto commanding the Sheriff of Philadelphia County to summon the Western Union and Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Companies before the Court, to show by what authority they claim to have and use their franchises, rights and privileges, and why the same should not be decreed to be escheated and forfeited to the State.

In the Philadelphia Common Council the following resolution was passed Dec. 29: That Councils, in conjunction with the Electoral Committee and the Chief of the Electrical Bureau, inquire into the matter, and on proof of such consolidation, sale or transfer, shall immediately direct the Department of Public Safety to take possession of the poles, wires and fixtures of the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company in this city, and the City Solicitor be authorized to collect the amount of the bond given by the company in accordance with the provisions of the act of Council of March 21, 1883."

The bond spoken of was one of \$50,000 to the effect that the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company would not consolidate with any other competing company and it also provided for the forfeiture of the poles and wires should merger take place.

Several nice points of law will have to be decided in this case before the commonwealth secures peaceful possession of the lines. The Western Union Company, we believe will raise the question of unconstitutionality of the law and it seems to have an excellent fighting chance for success. The law as it stands practically prohibits a company from selling its own property in the state of Pennsylvania whether it is making or losing money. If a corporation cannot make money its property is forfeited to the State.

The Western Union Company is not at all anxious over the final outcome of the proceedings. It can, if it elects, delay the trial for years and it is not unlikely that this action will be taken by the monopoly.

The Wheatstone system is to make its advent in the cable service on this side of the Atlantic, as soon as the office changes that are being made are completed. In conversation with a gentleman in authority concerning this extension, he observed that many times in the course of a year the land lines are prostrated. When repairs are so far completed as to give the cable service one wire to Halifax or other cable stations, it is found impossible to move the accumulated cablegrams as expeditiously as the demands of the business require. The Wheatstone system on occasions of this kind will play an important part in the transmission of cable business on the land lines in the future. The slow cable business, however, will be handled by the Wheatstone operators on all occasions, it is thought.

Among our new advertisements in this issue, is one of The Telegraphers' Mutual Aid and Literary Association of Boston. That successful organization has accomplished excellent work in the past and is now entering upon the new year with renewed enterprise and prosperity. Those engaged in electrical pursuits in the vicinity of Boston, are invited to affiliate with the association.

The Lehigh Valley railroad now has twelve trains equipped with telegraphic instruments for transmitting messages along the road while the trains are in motion. The system has been used with particular success by the wrecking trains on the road.

At the annual meeting of the Eastern Telegraph Company, Company, held in Portland, Me., the following board of directors was re-elected: Chas. A. Tinker, A. S. Brown, Thos. Roche, Frederick Robie, C. C. Bedlow, C. D. Livermore, J. W. Plaisted.

The engraving of John W. Mackay, President of the Commercial Cable Co., in our last issue, was an agreeable surprise to the staff of that company. The engraving was pronounced to be the best ever produced of the Silver King.

The Union Pacific Railway Company says that under an act passed by Congress last August they are compelled to operate their own lines, and will await the action of the courts.

INVEST WISELY.—Any one who will subscribe for the literature of the profession for the coming year will invest wisely. If you are already a subscriber, and you believe that a word or two to an associate would result in our receiving an additional name, by all means speak. You cannot miss the mark very wide in recommending the ELECTRIC AGE to all telegraphers, and volunteering to remit for those unacquainted with the Post Office red tape.

Electrically refined sugar is the latest swindling dodge. Have the primary batteries lost their power?

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH.

William Maver, Jr., whose picture appears below, is of Scottish descent and birth. With his parents he went to Canada at the age of six years and dwelt for 13 years of his life in that country, in Montreal. Mr. Maver had the advantage of a good private school education.

Mr. Maver began his business career as an office boy in a commission house in Montreal, but after a short time he accepted a place as messenger in the service of the Montreal Telegraph Company. In a few months he was promoted to the office of delivery clerk, in the main office of that company, from whence in a short time he graduated to the operating room as an operator. In 1873 Mr. Maver came to New York as a substitute for a regular operator in the main office of the Western Union Telegraph Company, at that time located at 145 Broadway, but was subsequently given a regular situation. Before Mr. Maver's departure for New York, led on by a desire to understand something of the laws controlling the machinery employed in telegraphy, he had begun the study of electricity, and had delivered at least one paper on the subject before a literary society of which he was a member. This study Mr. Maver never relinquished, unless when making an especial study to increasing his knowledge of history, grammar, philosophy, mathematics, &c.



WILLIAM MAVER, JR.

Like many of the young men brought up in Canada, Mr. Maver had early acquired an attachment for outdoor sports of all kinds, which has never left him; and as an amateur athlete he has won many trophies for victories in running and walking, including a steeplechase on snow-shoes over Mount Royal, Montreal, against sixteen competitors, of whom Mr. Maver was the youngest. For several years Mr. Maver was Captain of the American Athletic Club of New York City, one of the largest amateur athletic clubs in the city at that time, and it was owing somewhat to Mr. Maver's efforts that the Western Union Athletic Club, of 195 Broadway, which flourished for several seasons, was organized. But notwithstanding the time consumed in the duties connected with these clubs, Mr. Maver kept up a constant and increasing study of the electrical science.

About 1882 Mr. Maver began contributing technical articles to the electrical press, which being written in a style calculated to be readily understood by those for whom they were intended, and whose wants were well known to him, were received with special marks of approval. Since that time, as all who read the electrical periodicals are aware, Mr. Maver has been a voluminous writer on electrical subjects.

At the time of the reorganization of the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company, in 1884, with Mr. D. H. Bates as President and General Manager, Mr. Maver was offered the place of assistant to the Electrician of the Company, Mr. Henry Van Hoevenbergh, which offer was accepted. Shortly afterwards, at the suggestion of Mr. Van Hoevenbergh, Mr. Maver was appointed Assistant Electrician of the Company, which title he held until the resignation of Mr. Van Hoevenbergh, when he was gazetted Electrician of the Company, a position he held until the purchase of the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company by the Western Union Co.

Shortly after the commencement of Mr. Maver's connection with the B. & O. Company, orders were issued for the equipment of many of the circuits with the quadruplex system, which was done, owing to the pre-occupation and unavoidable absence of Mr. VanHoevenbergh, under the supervision of Mr. Maver, whose study of, and previous practical experience with that system had well qualified him for the work. At the time of the consolidation of the companies there were over 40,000 miles of wire operated on the quadruplex system and without detracting in the least from the valuable services of the, in many instances, picked staff of quadruplex attendants which had been gathered together by the B. & O. Company, it is not perhaps, too much to say that the admittedly unprecedented success of this extensive system was due to the ceaseless oversight of Mr. Maver.

In the summer of 1885, suit was brought by the Western Union Telegraph Company to restrain the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company from using the condenser in duplex and quadruplex telegraphy. This opened up an opportunity to Mr. Maver to acquire an insight into patent law and method, which he seized with avidity, all the more so because it related to a branch of study for which he had early discovered an inclination. In a short time Mr. Maver had mastered the case in all its bearings, and his reports on and evidence in the case, were duly appreciated and generously acknowledged. During the progress of the suit, it was deemed important to secure the testimony of Sir William Thomson, and Mr. Maver was deputed to visit him in Scotland with that object in view, a mission which he performed with abundant success.

After the consolidation of the Baltimore & Ohio Telegraph Company, with the Western Union Company, Mr. Maver was for a time attached to the electrical staff of the latter company, but he is now engaged in a lucrative electrical business in New York City. Mr. Maver proposes, however, to continue as far as times will permit his literary work, an evidence of which may be seen in his article on condensers, which we will begin to print in our next issue from the columns of the *ELECTRICAL ENGINEER*. Mr. Maver is still a young man, and if energy, strict integrity, and an unlimited capacity for physical and mental application are conducive to further success, he is well qualified to succeed.

Although very busily occupied in matters pertaining to his regular vocation, Mr. Maver has not neglected his obligations to his adopted country, and while not a politician for the love of politics, he has frequently permitted his name to be used as a candidate on reform tickets in the State of New Jersey, of which he is a citizen.

Welding joints of telegraph wire by electricity has been approved by the Western Union Company, and it is not unlikely in the future that all joints will be made in this manner.

AMUSING TELEGRAMS.

M. W. RUSSELL.

"I know it is a sin," but who can help being amused at the manner that some people word their telegrams, and even newspaper specials are often funny without any intention of being so. The man who telegraphed another: "If you are there, answer; if you are not there, don't answer," must have felt that he had a sure thing on both his friend and the telegraph company, because to his mind if the message wasn't answered the silence amounted to the same thing and saved him the telegraph tolls one way. In this country all nationalities send telegrams so we get all kinds of specimens. And newspapers have correspondents in every town, and some of them are often more interesting for the awkward manner in which they repeat an occurrence than for the real news the special contains. There is no subject the rural reporter is so up in as weddings and the death of pioneer settlers, except, perhaps during the base ball season, when their imagination runs rampant on the national game. It is nothing then to hear a two hundred word special start out thus: "The finest game of base ball ever played in Macoupin County, took place in this city to-day;" then he proceeds to describe its features in equally glowing language, often referring to the personals of the opposing sluggers and winds up with the remarkable statement of facts that the result of the game was a score of "27 to 13, in favor of the Macoupin County team." No wonder he was excited. Everybody got their moneys worth and were regaled by a series of foot races without parallel in their base ball experience. Something that just laid way over those professional games, where a man pays half a dollar to see one or two runs made. No doubt from first to last, everybody present was of the same frame of mind as the correspondent who reported this noted contest.

But here is a more recent effort. It comes fresh from one corner of the State of Texas, and it is a wedding. No ordinary affair; nothing particularly bon ton; something, however, out of the usual order of weddings, and, judging from the correspondent's manner of relating it, it must have engrossed considerable public attention and gossip. This is it: "A most remarkable wedding occurred at this place to-day; the contracting parties (here he names the bride and groom) were both deaf mutes, and the preacher who performed the ceremony was a one armed man." And so we are left to wonder what there is so exciting about such an occurrence; so remarkable, unless mutes or one armed preachers are very scarce in that section of Texas, or maybe (perhaps this is the solution after all) that he had to perform the ceremony in the mute signs. That would have made a one armed preacher earn his stipend and afford entertainment to people otherwise disinterested. Whatever it was, let us hope it was a mutual contract.

It would be wrong to leave a reader's animation suspended at this point, without relieving their feelings with something more tragic, and we will make it a case of suicide, not of the writer, but another not less worthy, whereupon his German friend endeavors to break the news gently to the precipitated widow. These are the words: "Your husband committed suicide, what shall we do with the body? he is dead." There can be no doubt of the writers well-meaning. His object was to allow the woman to gradually realize her awful misfortune as she read the message, but at the same time he didn't want any misunderstanding, that would leave him with a corpse on his hands, as the three last words signify.

NEW ELECTRICAL PUBLICATION.

The first number of *Electric Power*, a new monthly publication of the same size pages as the *ELECTRIC AGE*, is before us. One would naturally expect to find in the first issue, of a journal devoted to the transmission of power by electricity, evidences of babyhood; but in this case we are most

agreeably disappointed. The first number of *Electric Power* displays unmistakable signs of vigorous manhood. Twenty-two pages of interesting reading to the rapidly growing industry of the electric motor, and twelve pages of advertisements tell their own story. The excellent typographical appearance of the paper bespeaks the painstaking hands in which rest the interests of this journal and its patrons. The electric motor has long needed a journalistic friend and it is at last possessed of one in which it may justly feel proud. The creditable appearance of the paper, the value of the contents and the important interests it represents, at once place *Electric Power* in the front ranks of electrical journals. Ralph W. Pope is editor, assisted by George H. Stockbridge. Mr. Henry W. Pope is the business manager. These gentlemen are too well known to the entire electrical profession to need one word of commend from us. Their joint partnership in this enterprise bids fair to bring them both fame and fortune. The subscription price of *Electric Power* will be \$3.00 per year. Club Rates—The *ELECTRIC AGE*, price \$1.50, and *Electric Power*, price \$3.00, will be furnished one year for \$3.00.

ELECTRICAL MEASUREMENTS.

AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN THE ECONOMY OF TELEGRAPH SYSTEMS.

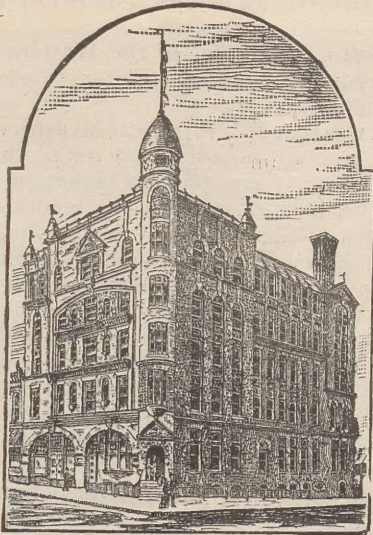
Cuyler C. Smith, wire chief of the Western Union, made a very successful debut as a lecturer before the Buffalo Electrical society, January 7.

His subject was that of "Electrical Measurement," which, he remarked, was an important factor in the economy of telegraph systems. It was quite as important in telegraphy to know and be able to measure the length of a telegraph wire in electrical units as to know the distance between any given point as expressed in the common units of ordinary measurements. Telegraph lines were subject to every conceivable form of interruption. Storms were liable to break, ground or cause them to come in contact with each other, in which case it was necessary to locate and remedy the trouble. The conductivity resistance of wires was constantly changing through deterioration or from imperfect joining; while the insulation of wires was affected by every rain storm and from many other causes.

The principal apparatus employed for determining the insulation and resistance of wires, as also ascertaining the nature and location of fault was that of the Wheatstone bridge or "balance." The principle involved in this instrument was almost identical with that of the ironmonger's scale or balance. The two arms of the electrical balance consisted of a set of resistance coils which, for ordinary tests, were made equal, as in the ironmonger's balance. When the electrician desires to know the length of a wire in units of resistance he accomplishes the object in much the same manner as the ironmonger determines the weight of a piece of iron in terms of the pound or ounce. He places the wire to be measured at the extremity of one arm of his bridge to the other extremity of which he attaches a set of resistance coils of known value. He then varies these coils as the ironmonger would the known weights in his scale pan, and when the galvanometer of the Wheatstone balance, which plays the same part as the index pointer of the ironmonger's balance, is brought to zero he then knows that the resistance of the wire he is measuring is equal to the number of units in his resistance box.

Mr. Smith proceeded at considerable length, by means of numerous diagrams, to illustrate the complex nature of some of the tests frequently made, and stated that, as a rule, the measurements were very exact. There was some difficulty experienced in defining the exact location of faults on badly insulated lines, but even under such circumstances it was possible to approximate very closely, and instances had occurred where trouble had been precisely located, though the distance had been hundreds of miles away.

ATLANTA, GA., NOTES—It will, perhaps, be an item of news to your numerous readers, that the Western Union having shaken off the old shell, now appears in bright and brilliant plumage, or with a little less prolixity, I could have said—we have moved. Sometime last September the company decided to increase their sphere of usefulness, likewise the comfort and convenience of their operators. Accordingly Col. J. E. Fenn, the company's electrician, called the ways and means committee, into secret session, and for the last ninety days, I believe he has been the hardest worked man in thirty-nine States, including Dakota to hear from. The result is just what might have been expected from his well-known taste and scientific skill in such work. We have today, beyond doubt, the handsomest and best equipped office south of Pittsburgh. I think I hear some reader say "Wave him down." When I get started on this subject I am very much like a glass of soda water—likely to effervesce. Well a brief description is this: The operating room is ninety-five feet by twenty-seven, and has sixteen windows on the side and ends. Heated by four steam heaters it is as comfortable as we could wish and well lighted; there are thirty-seven gas burners, also the same number of incandescent electric light burners for use in hot weather.



THE NEW W. U. TEL. OFFICE, ATLANTA, GA.

We have a sixty wire double spring jack switch board set in a cherry cabinet. A thing of beauty and joy to Chief Holcomb and his assistants. We have up, and working twelve quad sets; four duplex sets; one quad. repeater set; two polar repeater sets; one Wheatstone repeater set; five single repeater sets and ten single wires. The working force is as follows: Days, Chief, P. Holcomb; Repeater Chief, Wm. A. Benton; Traffic Chief, J. A. Baldwin; A. V. Curran, Augusta; H. G. Martin, Charlotte; E. C. Dunn, Chicago, C. N. D.; R. A. Guy, Cincinnati; W. M. York, Columbus; E. W. Wood, Knoxville; Walter J. Sprenger, Louisville; G. W. Stephens, Macon; A. H. Woodson, Nashville; F. W. Hamley, New Orleans; Phil. Raiford, First New York; A. E. Fredking, Second New York; H. Y. Howze, Rome; H. VanDevender, Savannah; Wm. G. Havis, Selma; R. H. Alston, Washington; Charles Daniel, United Press; Wm. A. Huston, L. M. McCormick, T. M. Giddings, all round. The split trick force "Col." E. H. Burch, C. A. Lackey, F. L. Chambers, S. B. Thompson, E. W. Blau, D. L. Smythe and Len. Owen. Nights, Chief, Dr. P. E. Murray; C. D. Duffey, M. S. Harris, W. D. James, O. W. Latimer, B. H. Wilson, E. Waldron, James B. Dillon, W. G. Turner. A. H. Christ, all night chief, and with a broker, days. Associated Press is handled by F. L. Chambers, C. D. Duffey and M. S. Harris, receiving, and W. D. James, O. W. Latimer, sending. "Capt." F. B. Spinks, is in charge of the Kimball

House branch. B. W. Brooks, at the Union Depot. Clif. P. Cochrane has charge of the C. N. D.'s, manipulates the ticker, sending joy and sorrow alike to the anxious watchers of the tape. He is assisted by Johnny Hook, who also runs check with Louis Lively, days. Bob Lee, at night. Will Oliver, day number clerk and Jesse Plunkett, night; Bob. Woodruff, tube boy in operating department, and Willie Plunkett, in receiving department. The clerical force is as follows: Ro. Edmond, stenographer to Manager J. M. Stephens; S. M. Wall, bookkeeper; Walter F. Barton, assistant; Sam P. Gilbert, day receiver; J. M. Robinson, night and collector; Miss Hattie Wiedemyer, day delivery; P. Green, night; Miss Allie Henson, telephone clerk, and Miss Cora Kutschan, copy girl. The office, under the management of Mr. J. M. Stephens, is in first-class running order. Mr. Stephens is too well known to need any words from your correspondent. He is emphatically the right man in the right place, and he deserves his success from a long and faithful discharge of duty.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—It has been two years since I had the pleasure of writing you. In that time there has been marked changes both in the personnel and arrangement of the office. Since the purchase of the B. & O. by the W. U., quite a transformation has taken place. The operating room is no longer lighted with the dingy, sweltering gas-jet, but with thirty-five bright, electric lights—Edison's patent. Carpenters are now at work taking down partitions and making enclosures that will, when completed, give double the space which is now occupied by the operating and clerical force. It will also, no doubt, lead to better ventilation. A very pleasant occasion was the night of Dec. 31st, when Mr. W. H. Young, night chief, was by the night force presented with a gold-headed cane. It was beautifully scrolled and engraved, "Mr. W. H. Young, from the Night Force. New Year, 1889." The young man who was selected to make the presentation speech, with the air of a veteran, advanced to the desk of the chief. There was a twinkle in the eye of the recipient of the token of esteem, as he caught a glimpse of the cane. That twinkle appeared to paralyze the gentleman, and like a blushing groomsman, he silently presented the cane, and swallowed the lump, which cut short his speech. The following gentlemen compose the night force: W. H. Young, chief; Eugene Cadmus, wire chief; J. M. Field, traffic chief and assistant to Mr. Young; G. L. Diven, all-night chief; W. W. Kelsner, repeater chief; Southern Press, "Jacksonville Circuit," L. S. Fisher; Southern Press, "Atlanta Circuit," Mr. Bickers and Mr. Bowser, alternate nights, Wilmington local, J. Howard Crane; Norfolk local, J. W. Monroe, Jr.; New York quad., Frank Kane and W. A. Young; Augusta duplex, Jos. Bickers and Albert Bowser, alternate nights, Baltimore quad., A. G. Johnson; Lynchburg duplex, until 9 P. M., *Staats Zeitung*—after 9 P. M., Jas. Hahn; Chicago duplex, J. H. McAvoy; Philadelphia duplex, B. Vandenburg; Cincinnati quad., L. Thorpe; New Orleans duplex, J. Brown; Richmond local, W. E. Peirce; Charlotte local, D. W. Daly; Raleigh local, Maj. J. J. Vowles; Pittsburg quad., Mr. Field; Press specials, S. C. Wheeler, Will E. Durnin, Jas. Burrus, Phil. E. Brown, H. D. Robinson, Harry Larcomb, Phil. S. Townsend, Frank Jones, Thos. O'Brien, Geo. W. Taylor, T. T. Moore, Jere Collins, Geo. W. Kern, Louis Klotz, Arthur Frazier, Harry C. Biggs; City lines, Henry Klotz, Albert Pate, Thos. F. Young, E. W. Smithers.

Mr. John Agne, a well-known old timer of this city, recently of Rochester, N. Y., where he has been acting as teller of a bank, has been appointed chief clerk of the Auburn state prison. Congratulations are extended by New York and Rochester friends.

The telegraphers of Rochester, N. Y., subscribed \$35.50 toward the relief fund of the late fire sufferers at that place, and \$6.50 of the amount came from messengers.

New York Telegraph Operators in Drama and Dance. Turn Hall, 66 and 68 East 4th street, New York City, on Tuesday evening, February 19th. An Attractive Programme, including the laughable farce, "Dots and Dashes," or "The Professor." "A Real Telegraph School." Tickets fifty cents, admitting gentleman and ladies. A limited number of reserved seats on sale at all telegraph offices and by members of the profession.

D. W. McAneeny, Chairman Comm. Arrangements; J. C. VanCura, Secretary, 195 Broadway, New York.

ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTERS, INVENTORS AND AMATEURS.

FOR SALE.—Large lot of new and second-hand electrical apparatus, relays, sounders, keys, electro magnets, magnet wire, binding posts, etc.; also all materials for making at home, small motors, induction coils, galvanometers, thermopiles, batteries, etc., at low cost. No order too small to receive prompt attention. Write for anything wanted.

BLAKENEY & ROBERSON,
856 Willoughby Ave., Brooklyn.

The Direct Cable Company has issued a beautifully colored calendar showing its cable connections. Important electrical events are briefly noted in chronological order, which make a record of much interest to the electrical profession. At the bottom of the calendar views of the Boston and New York offices are given, also, the cable landings at Valentia, Ballinskelligs and Halifax, shown. Many colors are used and the glossy finish gives the whole a very pretty and striking appearance. We presume copies may be procured from Mr. J. Brown, superintendent, 40 Broadway, New York.

We are informed that the California Electrical Works, San Francisco, Cal., have recently been appointed agents on the Pacific coast for the celebrated "Okonite" wires, and cables for aerial, sub-marine, and underground use, manufactured by the Okonite Company, New York. This firm are well-known throughout the West, and are doing a big business in these specialties.

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.

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THE WISE MAN.

COUNTRY MERCHANT to Operator.—You appear to take matters easy. How do you manage it?

OPERATOR.—I read the ELECTRIC AGE. It keeps me thoroughly posted and I never have any trouble.



NOT SO WISE.

I never read our professional paper. I may not be thoroughly posted and I may not be advancing very rapidly, but I figure it that I save the subscription price.

The Canadian Pacific Telegraph Company is extending its lines east to Halifax and by next summer the circuits will have reached Canso, N. S., where connection will be made with the Commercial Cables. This will be an important link in the opposition system.

FEED GUIDES.—Feed guides for typewriters can be procured at the office of the ELECTRIC AGE on receipt of price, \$1.50. We keep a few of them on hand to accommodate the members of the craft who use the machine.

ECONOMY IN CABLEGRAMS.

INGENIOUS CODES THAT MAKE THE AVERAGE COST TWO CENTS
A WORD.

(New York World.)

The rate for messages cabled across the Atlantic is twenty-five cents a word, but the business men contrive to make the average only a small fraction of that sum. General-Manager Ward, of the Commercial Cable Company, says there are firms who reduce the average to about one-tenth of the regular rate, and in some messages to one-twentieth, or one and a quarter cents a word, which is about as cheap as messages can be sent between any two points in this country, and cheaper than they can be transmitted from one point to another in this city. This is accomplished by signal codes, of which there are many, ranging from a simple pocket edition issued by an insurance company for free distribution among its patrons, up to an elaborate special system devised expressly for a firm of Wall street bankers at a reported cost of \$25,000.

The codes are chiefly devoted to social matters, and provide for John Smith informing his wife or sweetheart that he "arrived in Queenstown safely; had a pleasant voyage; am well; thinking only of you day and night. Give my love to the folks and Nellie, [applicable to either a dog or bird]. Ever thine, John," by simply writing "Smith, New York—victory," and paying seventy-five cents. This brings the rate down to about two and a half cents a word. The \$25,000 code is so arranged that for ninety-nine years the signal used will not only tell the date of the message, the hour it was filed and the condition of the weather, but also convey information relating to business of from five to fifty words in one single word. The more common codes used by business men sell for about \$500 each, and contain over one hundred thousand words. In these codes there appears to be a straining after unusual words, probably as a silent protest against the rule of all cable companies barring out all but dictionary words, without specifying which dictionary is the standard. For instance, "scormoge" is certainly a rare word yet it may mean 93,039, or it may convey the information that the "large volume of their business renders it difficult to form a correct judgment as to their standing." When it is considered that the code from which this word was selected contains 121,000 words and accompanying phrases it will be seen that economy in cabling has reached a high state of perfection. Another word from this code, "Stechnie," means the "vessel must go to port named or as near unto it as she can safely get and lie afloat."

One of the champion words in this code is "Resfrido," and conveys the information "we have not been able to obtain different conditions of reimbursement than those you have already, but we have made arrangements with—and you may draw on them at sixty days, allowing them a commission of—and sending them your drafts with documents against acceptance on buyers." This would bring the rate considerably below two cents a word.

Many people visiting Europe arrange their own code of cipher to cover their special requirements, and a small percentage of cable dispatches only are written in plain language, and every word paid for. The cable companies themselves, assists the economy of customers by registering cable addresses for all persons requesting it and addressing the messages on arrival at their destination under the signal "Brown, New York," or other directions, thus saving to the customer tolls on all but two essential words. At one time extra economical people oftentimes managed to reduce toll-paying to two words, the address, thus advising correspondents of their whereabouts, but the companies put a stop to this by making a rule that messages should contain at least one word in addition to the address. Very few have more than two words in the address. The cable opera-

tors also have some contractions which are the outgrowth of custom, which, however, are only used in their own communications or in transmitting press reports. The latter are naturally relieved of all words not essential to their understanding by the correspondents, and the operators have not much chance to practice economy, but the work in such contractions as "Ln," for London, "N. Y." for New York, "smorning," for this morning, "safternoon," for this afternoon, and many others, which, however, are not accepted in cable messages as they are clearly not dictionary words. When the cable rate was down to 12½ cents a word, messages to London did not average as high as to many points in this country. One Wall street firm at that time informed the chief electrician of the Commercial Cable Company that its cable messages averaged less than one and a quarter cents a word. The rate between any two points in New York city is two cents a word.

THE STORY OF A BASE BALL TELEGRAM.

The New York *Sun* gives the following description as to the routes its base ball dispatches take in passing from Australia to America:

Australia, by the cable line over which the *Sun* reports come, is distant from New York some 17,127 miles. So, if the circumference of the globe is 24,000 miles, the *Sun's* report travelled nearly three-quarters of the way around the earth's surface. If you look at the map you will see that Sydney is down on the lower part of the east coast of Australia. There is where the base ball report started. The first station is Port Darwin, 2,000 miles from Sydney. This territory between the two points is not thickly populated, and some parts are not populated at all. There is a small settlement half way between Sydney and Port Darwin, and there there is a telegraph station. They can't send a message down there for a distance of 2,000 miles now, so at this half-way station the base ball report was taken first and thence sent on to Port Darwin. This, then, was the first relay. The second relay was between the half-way station and the coast, and then at Port Darwin began the third relay, and the first plunge of the telegraph beneath the Pacific Ocean, and under it for 1,200 miles the electric current dotted and dashed its signals to the receiving operator at Banjoewangi. This is a small town at the lowest corner of the Island of Java, one of the possessions of the Dutch. While the receiving operator was getting the message from Port Darwin the operator took what had been received, and as fast as it came in sent it out to Singapore. The cable to Singapore lies on the ocean's bed between the islands of Java, Borneo, and Sumatra, and is 900 miles long. Here the message crossed the equator, and ticked across those submerged mountains, which only awhile ago were shaken in the great Java earthquake.

From Singapore, the town on the extreme tip of the Malay peninsular, the lowest projection of the Asiatic continent, the story of Chicago's defeat at the great American game ticked its way under the waves of the Strait of Malacca around the coast of the Malay peninsular to the Island of Penang. This is a spot 160 miles in area that looks out on the Indian Ocean. The people who inhabit the place are mostly Malays and Chinese, and they were doubtless utterly oblivious of the long despatch about base ball that was on last Sunday passing through their lonely land. Possibly even if they had known they wouldn't have cared a bit about it. The relay from Singapore to Penang was 400 miles, and then the sixth stage of the journey was begun. This was a plunge of 1,200 miles under the Indian Ocean from Penang to Madras. This is an old commercial port of the English in India on the shores of the Bay of Bengal. From Madras the next relay was by land over that part of India which projects into the Indian Ocean. The

distance covered by the wires is 400 miles to Bombay on the other side of the peninsular. From there the base ball score went again under the water, this time the Arabian Sea to Aden, a distance of 1817 miles from Bombay. Aden is a seaport of Arabia, and is called the Gibraltar of the East. The message was sent from there up the Red Sea for 1,460 miles. After the message got to the end of the Red Sea it was taken by the operator at Suez. Another flashed across the desert to Alexandria. This was a lonely journey 150 miles, and here the last connection with the continents of Asia and Africa was had, and the report reached European division. And it was a glorious avenue through which the base ball story made its exit from the ancient East. On its one side were Mecca and Jerusalem and the Holy Land, on its other the ruins of Thebes, the towering Pyramids, while at the very finish of its race from Palestine and Egypt the message leaped the Nile, and passing near the Suez Canal stood on the brink of the Mediterranean, as a sort of second base on the home run from Sydney to New York.

The operator at Alexandria started the despatch out into the sea, and, traversing the bottom amid the wrecks of the navies of the Punic wars, the nineteenth century news of a base ball duel in Australia throbbed through the cable from Alexandria to Malta, 1,000 miles away, where the receiving operator turned it over to another man in the office there, and he sent it to Gibraltar. At last the story written on the shore of the Pacific had reached the coast of the Atlantic. The relay from Malta to Gibraltar was 1,100 miles, and then from there the message shipped 400 miles to Lisbon, then 800 miles to Porth Curno, then 200 to London, and then 600 miles to Waterville, on the coast of Ireland. This was a kind of third base. The runner lost no time, but jumped beneath the Atlantic, and, darting 2,500 miles along, got to Canso, Nova Scotia. Here the last of the eighteen relays was made, and, coming down the coast 1,000 miles, the base ball story got to New York, its home plate.

KANSAS SMITH'S BIG BILL.

BY M. W. RUSSELL.

In a "claim department" of a western telegraph official's office is a package of papers labelled, "Smith, real and personal, damages, \$495.60." The documents in the case have accumulated to such formidable proportions, that for quantity, if not quality of evidence, the papers of all the other damage suits together are insignificant in comparison. The origin of this claim makes a truthful and somewhat curious story, worthy, perhaps, of space enough to show that when a western habitant stoops to "pay the fiddler," he does it with a conquering slope that enforces his demands, not alone on those who danced, but on all who were part or party to the "shin-dig."

It was the day before New Years, a year ago, that Smith, a resident of Wichita, Kansas, who had been down in the Indian Territory looking after cattle interests, stopped off at a railroad station while returning home, and wrote a message, addressed to his wife at Hutchinson, Kansas, as follows: "Big ball meet me at Wichita to-night." Said message as the evidence says, being written in a clear, legible hand, and the proper transmission thereof to its destination paid for in lawful money of the United States. The first portion of the above dispatch was intended by Mr. Smith to apprise Mrs. Smith, who was visiting her brother, of an immense event, highly social in character, on the tapis at Wichita, in proportion nothing less gigantic than a grand New Years' ball, while the balance was meant to convey the welcome assurance that the Smiths would be there. Late that night, when the "old year" had almost expired, under the careful and solemn vigil of the Hutchinson household, there came a spiteful jingle of the front door bell, so startling to the quiet family group of watchers that none of them could

collect sufficient sense to answer it, until another jingle, more vengeful than the first, brought the brother promptly to his reason and to the door. It was the belated telegram that Smith had addressed to his wife early in the day, but with some material alterations. It read: "Big Bill got me at Wichita to-night." The brother read it aloud twice, thrice, and each person looked appealingly to Mrs. Smith for an explanation. She was the picture of amazement and despair. "I thought he promised me—," she said, then hesitated, when her brother, grasping the key to the mystery exclaimed, "yes, I'll bet something worse than Big Bill has him again!" "No, no," said Mrs. Smith, "it isn't that! oh, dear! oh, dear! he has been kidnapped; whoever this 'Big Bill' is, he has kidnapped, and is spiriting him away." "More likely," muttered the brother, who was beginning to feel awkward in the presence of his sister's approaching hysterics and the suppression of his own indignation, "that its a big sheriff." Arguments, however, availed nothing against the convictions of the wife, that "Big Bill" was some border outlaw into whose unscrupulous hands her husband's liberty had been betrayed. Hasty arrangements were made to take the first morning train for the supposed desolated home of Smith. There was Mrs. Smith, her brother and two reliable friends of his, who took passage that New Years morning, swore to run down the "Big Bill" terror, or end their earthly existence in the most approved of frontier style. When this determined little band reached Wichita, and stepped off on the station platform, behold! there was Smith to greet them. His wife not having arrived the evening before, he had been thoughtful enough to come down to the morning train, thinking she had possibly been delayed. For a minute Smith and the rescuing party gazed at each other as though everybody had gone daft, till someone asked, "where's Big Bill?" "Whose Big Bill?" snapped Smith, not relishing the reception a bit, and entirely ignorant of the transposition his message had undergone the day before while in transit. Then the wife fully believing that they were the victims of her husband's hoaxing, and that he was playing the role of "injured innocence," hissed at him, "oh, you were kidnapped, weren't you, deary!" and with that remark she clawed earnestly at his face, and succeeded in removing several strips of skin therefrom, in perpendicular parallels, just the width of her finger nails. Then the brother remarked that he was no slouch of a "Big Bill" himself, and his right hand came down in such a manner that the head and disfigured face of Smith disappeared inside of his hat. At that instant the two sworn friends grabbed Smith by the collar, so vehemently that his overcoat was ripped half way down the back, and the disturbance brought a policeman on the scene, who took in the situation with characteristic perception and adopted prompt measures for the maintenance of peace, his decision being forcibly emphasized by a lively belaboring of Smith's head and shoulders with his club. It is proverbial that peace-makers—and particularly family peace-makers—always get the worst of a row, so it was in this instance, for the wife and men turned upon the policeman with redoubled energy and in two minutes his appearance was less presentable than Smith's.

The outcome of all this strife was summed up on the police court "blotter" next day in three cases, to each of which the same defendant answered:

"Smith, disturbing the peace;"

"Smith, assault and battery;"

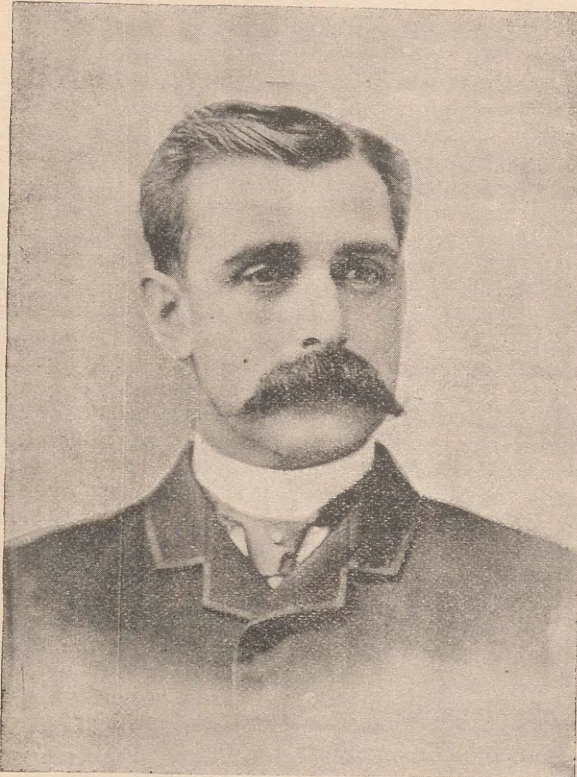
"Smith, resisting an officer;"

The above are the facts brought out at the police court trial, and they are related without any intention of prejudicing the case of Smith, either way.

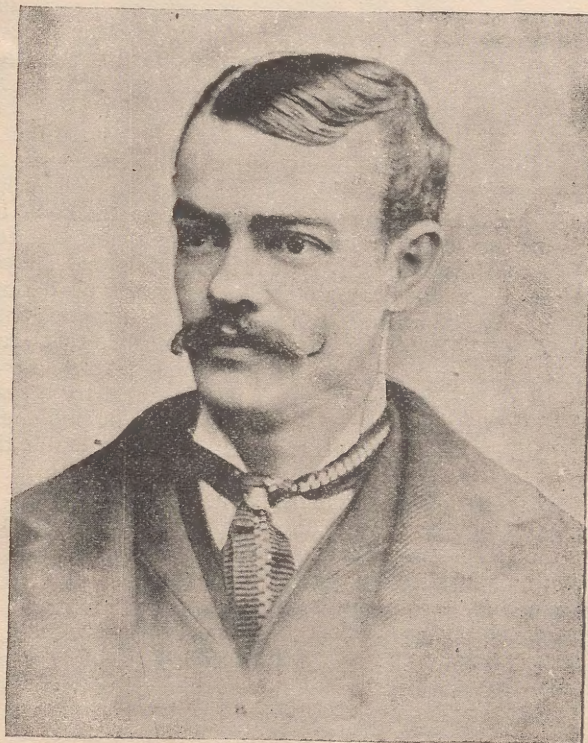
French engineers have arrived at Warsaw, Russia, to make arrangements for the establishment of a new telegraph line between Russia and China.

PROMINENT TELEGRAPH OFFICIALS.

Thomas D. Williams, chief operator of the W. U., Pittsburgh, Pa., commenced his career in the telegraph business as a messenger at Lafayette, Ind., in 1861. In six months he was promoted to the position of operator. Subsequently



THOS. D. WILLIAMS, Chief Operator, W. U., Pittsburgh, Pa.



F. H. BENDER, Night Chief Operator, W. U., Pittsburgh, Pa. he was employed on the Little Miami, Ohio and Mississippi, Pittsburg, Fort Wayne and Chicago, and Pittsburgh, Cincin-

nati and St. Louis railways. Mr. Williams served about five months in the military service in the Department of Columbia. He then went to Philadelphia and was in the employ of the W. U. for six months. He was one of the unfortunates arrested in 1864, under the bogus proclamation supposed to have been sent from New York. He was taken to Washington and incarcerated in the old Capitol prison about ten hours. He was then released upon the order of Secretary Seward. Mr. Williams came to Pittsburgh in the Spring of 1865, and has been in the W. U. service continually ever since. In 1873, Mr. Williams was promoted to be assistant to David Fleming, then chief operator. Upon Mr. Fleming's resignation in 1882, Mr. Williams was promoted to that position, which he has since filled with marked ability.

In Wheeling, W. Va., 1873, Mr. Frank H. Bender made his first appearance as an operator for the Baltimore & Ohio R. R. About one year later he went to the Western Union. In 1876, Mr. Bender accepted a position with The Associated Press, which he filled until 1881, when he came to Pittsburgh. In 1883, he was promoted to Western wire chief, and in 1885, to night chief operator of the Pittsburgh office.

MAGNETIC CLUB.—The winter meeting of the Magnetic Club will be held at Martinelli's Restaurant, 136 Fifth avenue, January 23d, dinner to be served at 6:30 P. M. This meeting will complete the first year of the club's history. It is proposed to begin the second year of its existence under the most favorable auspices. The club has accomplished a great social work during the past twelve months under the guidance of the very popular president, Mr. Charles P. Bruch, with the assistance of an able and energetic staff of officers. It is only a matter of time now when the club will be seeking for permanent headquarters. When it does, because of its excellent record in the past, it will find many warm friends to champion its cause.

RESIGNED.—The resignation of Mr. Joseph Uhrig, assistant superintendent, after seventeen years' continuous service with the W. U. company in Chicago, has been accepted with regret.

A VALUABLE SUGGESTION.—Mr. John Costelloe, manager of the Postal, leather district, this city, suggests that the telegraph profession should endow a bed in one of the hospitals, or if that is too much, to hire one from year to year. He has every reason to believe the shining lights of the telegraph profession would gladly support this charitable object with pleasure and general satisfaction.

It is Mr. Costelloe's idea that the profession of New York is sufficiently extensive to rent beds at the various hospitals at the rate of \$7 a week, when occupied by members of the profession. This will do away with the numerous charity petitions circulating continually and save many individual doctor bills. A fund will be raised to defray this expense, and those charitably inclined will be asked to contribute.

ELECTRIC BELLS AND ALL ABOUT THEM is a practical book for Practical men. It contains more than 100 illustrations; By S. R. Bottone; price \$1.20; D. Van Nostrand Company, New York. For a long time there has been felt an urgent necessity for a book which would enable the less experienced mechanic to fit up a house with electric bells and other electric appliances. This work gives accurate instructions on these subjects and recites how the instruments act and how they are made. Batteries, push buttons, bells, detectors, wiring, testing for local faults are treated in a comprehensive manner.

The Silvertown Company of London, Eng., is working night and day turning out new cables. A new trans-atlantic cable will be laid to Bermuda and Halifax by way of Portugal and the Azores.

Mr. Frank English, a well-known New York operator, has been elected captain of the Friendship Boat Club. Captain English has our congratulations.

WESTERN UNION NOTES.—For the purpose of enabling one of our fair readers to keep a correct record of all that transpired on New Year's day, the following notes penned on the back of a blank, the face of which subsequently bore a cablegram received by her "relief," are here given in order that her diary for 1889 may be complete :

January 1—clear and mild day. Beautiful weather. Arose about 10 o'clock A. M.; had breakfast and intended going to church, in fact was ready to do so but it was too late then so I stayed at home. Made a couple of beds and took my book, "Robert Elsmere," and read until dinner time. After dinner took up my book again and read until tea time. Was reading about an hour or so when John — came in. He entertained us with a ghost story. He had gone but a half an hour or so when — who had been to Albany to see the inauguration of Gov. Hill, came in. C— no sooner got well down stairs (forgot to mention Ella — just about ten minutes before C—) when O— and two men called with—"thought it was Pa —." That is all. The author of the above, if her memory for names be treacherous, can learn them in full by applying to your correspondent. John Owen who, for some months past has been incapacitated for work on account of an injury sustained by a fall is again on duty. Richard Power, a well-known operator throughout the country, is lying ill of nervous prostration at the City Hospital, Jersey City. Mr. Thomas G. Kennedy, the veteran wire chief of the Eastern Division, is back from a short vacation, the first he had taken in eighteen months. He says he found it somewhat difficult to accustom himself while away, to partake of breakfast at eight, dinner at twelve and supper at six; and then fight with his host because the latter insisted upon his dining again before retiring for the night. Paradoxical though it may seem Mr. Kennedy appears younger as he grows older. So great is the volume of business between this city and the main office in Brooklyn, that two circuits are required to handle it. Two single wires, one of which is used for sending, the other for receiving, are kept warm by Miss Fulgraff and Miss Millie Paterson. Both are skillful operators and should the number of messages exchanged by them daily fall short of 700 or even 750, it is no fault of theirs. Mrs. Fones, the accomplished little operator who keeps the hooks on 3 City desk clear, was missed by all on the circuit during her few days absence with a broker firm. The new marble top water font near the entrance to the operating room is a great improvement over the old barrel that has so long been used for that purpose. Recent additions to the waiting list are: R. Payson Porter, a genial old-timer, and perhaps the first operator in this country to copy from a wire on a typewriter, and Mr. McNevin, late of Chicago. William Adlum, of the Chicago *Times* Bureau and John Smolin, of the regular night force, have recently changed places. Cornelius Dwyer, a well-known old timer, at one time chief operator at Galveston, after an absence of two years, is once more at home on the night force. The old adage that "There's luck in odd numbers," was never better verified than on the night of January 1st, when Les Bradley's dicer was selected as the receptacle from which the prizes allow-

ing the boys the privilege of being excused one night each year with pay were drawn. As each of the three New Orleans men, Stewart, Van Antwerp and "Brad," drew "off" their faith in "drawings" increased 100 per cent. As a result it is predicted by their friends that the "lucky seven" will yet secure the long coveted capital prize. The quiet unassuming manner with which Miss Nolan maintained discipline and kept the enormous amount of business moving in the City Department, over which she presided on New Year's day, has added another laurel to the wreath so gracefully worn by this distinguished little lady. It was the busiest January 1st in the history of the office. The somewhat sudden and unexpected death of Johnny Smith, one of the brightest and handsomest little check boys in the service, has filled with gloom not only the hearts of his companions, but those of a large number of gentlemen and ladies as well. Always kind and attentive, he was one of the most cheerful and agreeable little fellows to be met in a day's travels. Mr. Thomas J. Tobin, who for so many years has been chief of the 1 to 8. A. M. force, surprised his many friends by laying off Christmas morning. For 366 consecutive days he was neither absent nor so much as one minute late. Messrs. Ryan, Van Slyck and Foley, of the waiting list have together with Messrs. Cullen, O'Reilly, Baker, Delaney, Nolan and Grogan, of the regular night force, been assigned to the Wheatstone Department to master the mysteries of that system. Mr. Geo. W. Gardanier, the well-known electrician, is in charge at night, and the manner in which the business is handled is sufficient evidence of his wisdom exercised by his superiors in his selection for so important a position. The boys are catching on in good shape and appear to be in love with their work. At 3:45 o'clock, on the afternoon of January 1st., there was established under the personal supervision of that well-known and popular Wire Chief Geo. E. Baker, a single circuit between the New York *Herald* office and San Francisco, for the purpose of enabling Professor Todd, of Amherst College, to receive direct from his assistants on the Pacific Coast, a report of their observations of the eclipse visible in that latitude. The wire which was of copper to Ogden and of "low grade" west, for the purpose of accommodating intermediate officers, worked like a charm. Repeaters were stationed at Buffalo, Chicago, Cheyenne and Ogden. That Manager McRobie, of San Francisco, has not lost his Catlin grip on the key was amply testified by the perfection with which his clear cut Morse reached this city. San Jose and other offices connected through by San Francisco, also came with remarkable clearness. The repeaters were watched personally by Chief Operator Laird at Buffalo; Manager Lloyd at Chicago; a gentleman whose name is not now recalled at Cheyenne; and by Mr. Palmer at Ogden. Mr. Baker has cause to feel justly proud of the compliments showered upon him by the Press, for aiding so largely in the success of the undertaking. Sunday, January 6th, was the day set apart for taking in a group the photographs of all the chiefs in the office. On account of the inclement weather it was postponed until January 13th. The picture is intended to adorn the wall of the operating department.

A CHANCE IN A LIFETIME.

Any grade of Watch for \$1.00 per week. The Co-operative Watch Club.
A new plan by which you can get a watch at spot cash wholesale price, on payment of a small weekly or monthly installment.

For example, 35 persons wish to buy a \$35.00 watch each. They each pay \$1.00 per week to us and every week we deliver them one watch (or we can send the watch C. O. D. (with privilege of examination) to some member chosen by the club who shall take it out with money subscribed.) At each subscription it is decided by a drawing which member is to receive the watch; and so on until all are supplied. When a member gets his watch he gives to the club satisfactory security for the balance. Number of members, amount and date of payment and price and description of goods bought, will be arranged to suit purchasers. We will supply them with forms of mutual agreement (which they can sign as a guarantee to each other, where required.) This will be found a satisfactory investment by any one contemplating the purchase of a watch. Instead of spending the money in different ways for which you would have nothing to show, you will at the end of agreed time possess a good and lasting article, all paid for, without experiencing any strain on your purse. All intending members will receive our catalogue on application, and will be able to select from as complete an assortment as can be offered, a watch or any article or articles in it to the value, and be assured of exactly what they are receiving and of its reliability, as we warrant all our goods and as our own reputation will testify. Address all communications to J. S. Townsend, 1551 Wabash ave., Chicago, Ill. (Watch Club Department) For references apply to editor or the First National Bank of Chicago.

N. B. Special inducements to any one who will assist us in forming new clubs. Particulars furnished on application. In writing please mention this paper.

THE SHAVER MULTIPLEX TELEPHONE, PATENTED MARCH 6 1886,

is the result of 10 years experiment and is offered as the only perfect Mechanical Phone extant.

Adopted by the U. S. Government and various railroads.

It is not affected by wind or rain, and does not easily get out of order. We use heavy six strand steel cable line wire.

Satisfaction Guaranteed.

Telegraphers may add to their income by sending our cards to probable customers. Outfits free; no canvassing.

THE SHAVER CORPORATION,

ROOM 4, EQUITABLE BUILDING,

120 Broadway, New York.

We refer by permission to Editor of the "Age," who has one of our lines connecting Editorial Rooms with The United Press.

TELEGRAPH WAR IN CANADA.

Erastus Wiman has got back from Montreal and was met with some questions as to the fight his telegraph company, the Great Northwestern, is having with the Montreal Telegraph Company. In response Mr. Wiman produced this despatch, dated Montreal:

"Papers have been served in an action on behalf of Erastus Wiman's telegraph company, the Great Northwestern, against the Montreal Telegraph Company, asking the Superior Court to fix a reduction of rental paid to the latter." The action is based on the alleged failure of the Montreal Company to maintain the leasing company in peaceable possession of lines, routes and rights of ways on independent railways included within the original lease, but subsequently incorporated by the Canadian Pacific into their system, and more recently, it is claimed usurped for public telegraph purposes. A peculiar clause in the Quebec code relating to landlords is relied upon to force a reduction in proportion to the damage suffered, which, if applicable to the future, is also retroactive in its effects. In an interview Mr. Wiman, referring to the statement made by a paper, that he was the brigand of the telegraph world said: "Any man that can in seven years pay a million and a quarter dollars, equalling 8 per cent., while but for him the thousand share holders interested would never have received a dollar, is a handy kind of brigand to have around. If for the future he can on the one hand pay 6 per cent. in the face of the fiercest competition, while on the other, without this instrumentality, disaster and ruin will overtake the properties concerned, this is a species of brigandage which, if universal, would make the monetary millennium much nearer than at present it appears to be."

NEW YORK TELEGRAPHERS' AID SOCIETY.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

Balance on hand last report.....	\$1,648.12
Receipts, Dues.....	\$685.00
" Fees.....	30.00
Total.....	\$2,363.12
Disbursements:	
For Sick Benefits.....	\$362.85
" Death.....	100.00
Miscellaneous.....	33.98
Total.....	\$496.83
Balance on hand.....	\$1866.29

(Signed) E. F. STEVENS, }
D. C. DONOHUE, } Auditing
EDWIN DEAN. } Committee.

ANOTHER REVOLUTION IN TELEGRAPHY.—Senor Piedrahita, an electrician of Bogata, has patented a telegraphic instrument which he claims, will revolutionize telegraphy, as it works without batteries. The government appointed a committee of experts to examine into the merits of the machine. In their first report they say: "The 12th of October we proceeded outside the city and placed the new apparatus in connection with the telegraph to the city, and without a battery we held communication with the main office. October 16th we practiced another test, and sent messages over a wire 600 meters long, which was hung on posts without insulators, and some portions of which were allowed to trail along the ground. Once our machine was in order we sent messages over this wire in Spanish, French and English, and they were received without difficulty. The strength of the current received from us was tested, and it showed a density of 400 ohms, equal to a distance of $7\frac{1}{2}$ leagues, and over this range we could have communicated had our wire

stretched that distance." This is the substance of a dispatch from Panama. Telegraphy has been revolutionized three times in as many weeks by patents, and the telegraph operators are becoming tired of hanging on the ragged edge of precipice. Probably the battery was at the other end of the wire, when the instrument was cut in at the outside of the city. The government was wise in directing that the experiments be conducted outside the city limits. There is no telling how Piedrahita's infernal machine might have acted inside the limits. It is not stated whether the machine rested on a hay stack or a barn door, but the fact that the wire was allowed to trail along the ground is important. The absence of insulators is not at all astonishing. The wire could just as well have been thrown out entirely and no doubt communication with the city might still have been maintained. We see a great future for such a device if it is not allowed to leave the country.

A NEW YEAR'S STORY.

J. MACKENZIE, JR.

On the first day of the year Charley Scott, a Western Union messenger boy in New York, entered the sombre grey edifice called Bellevue Hospital. He carried a telegram addressed to Henry Matthews. The orderly in the office directed him to Ward 31, to find the patient named. Finding the man, who was a consumptive, Charley handed him the message, and also at his request, held him in a sitting position while he read it.

The message wished the sick man a "Happy New Year—many of them; and a quick recovery."

The wish appeared like mockery when one noted the terrible weakness of the man. His death occurred the same evening.

Let us hope that his quickly freed spirit found in another world a "Happy New Year, and many of them."

The messenger afterward learned that Matthews had left his early home two hundred miles from New Orleans, fifteen years previously, since which time he had led a wild life until prostrated with disease. Upon his admittance to the hospital, three weeks earlier, he had written a penitential letter to his mother, at his old home. The letter was forwarded to New Orleans on account of change of residence, thus causing delay.

The consumptive's usual optimistic view of his condition contained in the letter, misled the parent, whose hopeful message was suggested by her bright anticipations of an early re-union with the wanderer. Her sad disappointment may be imagined.

A DESERVING CASE.—John Roe, formerly an operator for the Western Union, at Binghamton, N. Y., but more recently employed by The United Press, at Albany, is ill, helpless and destitute. His case has been carefully looked into, and there seems to be little hope that he will ever recover. He is in pressing need of assistance, and all those who can spare something, however little, are earnestly requested to contribute toward Mr. Roe's relief. The United Press men are doing what they can, but there are many whom it will not be possible for them to see, and those generously inclined may therefore send their contributions to John B. Taltavall, care of the AGE, by whom the money will be acknowledged and forwarded to Mr. Roe, through responsible parties.

James McKeachem, of Philadelphia, was arrested at New ark, a few days since, on a charge of embezzling \$500 from the Western Union Company, of that city.

The Christmas number of the ELECTRIC AGE is finely illustrated with the portraits of many of the best known and most prominent telegraphers in this country and Canada.—*Railway Service Gazette.*

MILWAUKEE, WIS.—The Postal company is extending their lines to several important points in this state and are meeting with few obstructions, the Western Union no doubt, having concluded that the people are bound to have two telegraph companies. The Postal expect to reach Marquette, Mich., by the 20th of January. Mr. Thomas E. Ramsey looks after the company's interests in this city, and he has succeeded in building up a good business, and the business men highly appreciate the excellent service of the Postal. Mr. John O'Brien is chief operator; Mark Farley, Joe Ramsey and U. W. Boggess, operators; Patrick Delaney, receiver; Johnny Driscoll, delivery clerk. The Western Union force is composed of the following ladies and gentlemen: E. M. Shape, chief operator; Wm. Maher assistant chief operator; Wm. Barker, wire chief; Mat Grange, night chief; Charles Worth, all night chief. Operators, W. C. Williver, Henry Saefke, Henry Ramsey, Pete Williams, John Fleming, Wm. Houghton, A. S. Wilson, Wm. Plant, James Mackey, Will Carey, and Messrs. Johand, Sickinger, Werle, Bassindale and Prestwood, the Misses Lily Paler, Mattie Edgerton, Dot McCracken, Katie Plant and Mrs. Graham. Charles Dean, Associated Press, days; Ed Hickey and Ed Duffy, nights, all typewriter artists. A. P. Velie, United Press days, and Ed Lee, nights. F. W. Dunk, Joe Cook and Wm. Brownlee work for brokers. Mr. James Marlette, left his corner grocery on the night of the President's message and came up to the Western Union, and assisted Messrs Dean, Williver and Velie in rolling the message through typewriters. The W. U. gave the staff a half holiday on Thanksgiving then docked them the time. This was not done at any other point heard from so far.

CLEVELAND, OHIO., NOTES.—The following is a complete list of the W. U. force here, among whom will be found several gentlemen and ladies well-known to the fraternity at large. T. W. Hill, manager; N. A. Buell, cashier; H. J. Desson, collector; E. C. Denaple and S. G. Brooker, receiving clerks; T. L. Conley, all night receiving clerk; John Denaple, delivery clerk; C. C. Stumm, superintendent of messengers; Walter L. Lucas, head book-keeper; O. A. Gurley, chief operator; O. M. Sayre and D. Seibel, wire chiefs; E. C. Stockwell, traffic chief; William A. Manning, night chief; Isaac Morris, assistant night chief; John T. Hanford, all night chief; L. A. Somers, C. N. D. chief; R. Sheldon, G. H. Havens, G. F. Lehr, Sadie Toole, C. H. Welker, Maggie Davis, A. J. Desson, Maggie Toole, Florence Gaffey, Henry Long, L. T. Berghoff, F. C. Jones, H. N. Jeffers, F. W. Solomon, W. M. Guthrie, Kate Sutton, Fannie Kinney D. F. Baker, A. E. Crossman, Ruth E. Pumphrey, Mamie Stange, N. E. Stoddard, Phebe Bradley, C. F. Williams, J. Andres, A. Dumper, Laura Vaughn, H. J. Sieg-miller, H. D. Coe, Myrtle West, L. M. Shoppert, J. T. Rice, E. E. Newman, W. M. Wendover, D. E. McKay, W. F. Hunter, O. G. Fisher, J. M. Allen, P. H. Burns, Martha Kaumraw, I. Travers, W. F. Fohl, J. H. Shum, M. E. Magee, F. H. Ross, J. O. McCurdy, A. K. Sampey, M. W. Murphy, M. Handler, J. E. Howe, A. T. McMannus, F. Hiner, W. C. McComb, W. E. Madden, W. J. McEwen, M. D. Coombs, C. B. McCollum, B. C. VanValkenberg, J. E. Moore, W. J. Henley, F. J. Martin, H. Salisburg, J. Farron.

RENO, NEVADA.—Since "The Land 'o Washoe" was last heard from in the AGE, there has been several changes in the personnel of this office, and also of Virginia City. At Virginia, Mr. Jos. G. Lester has resigned and gone back to Baltimore, Md. He is succeeded by Dr G. E. Shoemaker who is not "stuck" on mining camps, but says he hopes for deliverance soon. The artists who dispose of W. U. business at Virginia are as follows: W. H. Murray, manager; E. P. Blake, Dr. Shoemaker and Dave Blake, operators. At Reno, Miss H. B. Donohue for some time the star of our telegraphic troupe, has resigned and gone to California; Mr. E. W.

Black has transferred to Sacramento for W. U.; they are relieved by Messrs. W. F. Sedgwick and W. C. Corbett. The office is now manned as follows: B. C. Shearer, manager; W. F. Sedgwick and W. C. Corbett, days; E. A. Kilbourne, nights; W. F. Allen, all nights; G. F. Wilson in charge of Wheatstone repeaters, and Mrs. B. C. Shearer, clerk. Commencing January 1st, it is the intention to work the "mill" between Chicago and San Francisco until 1 A. M. instead of closing at 5 P. M. as is now done. This will bring about more changes. Mr. Wilson will be transferred to San Francisco, where he will have charge of the night Wheatstone force. The repeaters here will then be looked after by Shearer days, and E. A. Kilbourne nights. An addition of one to our day force will be needed, and if reports are true, there will be lots to fill it, for it is said that the advent of the night Wheatstone circuit, will bring with it a reduction in the Morse force at San Francisco and Ogden.

MEMPHIS, TENN., NOTES.—The day force rather surprised Chief Operator Ford, on Christmas day, by presenting him with a very fine meerschaum pipe. Mr. M. T. Paoli acted as spokesman for the force and delivered the gift with a few but appropriate words. Mr. Ford responded likewise, and at the same time opened a box of fine cigars with the invitation to the boys to "pitch in," which they did with a will. Everybody seemed to have had their inner man well satisfied on this day. Very few, if any of the force took a vacation during the holidays. Mr. Senn returned a few days before Christmas, after a two week's visit to Augusta, Ga. Mr. Ellis was also absent a few days. Only one new arrival, Mr. Frank McNavin. Mr. McEwen resigned two weeks ago, to go with the K. C. M., and B. Railway. Mrs. Boone nee Miss Maud Phillips, was with us a few days during a rush to help us out. It looked quite natural to see her with us again. The only lady operator we have now is Miss Tennie Davis, a bright, pleasant young lady, who has a smile and kind word for all. Mr. Willie F. Pear, of the first Associated Press wire, left on the 20th day of December, to spend the holidays at his home in Aberdeen, Miss. Mr. H. C. Allison filling his place during his absence. A few nights ago the Western Union office was robbed of somewhere between forty and fifty dollars. Up to this date the thief has not been discovered. The theft was committed while the clerk's attention was drawn to some one of his numerous duties.

KANSAS CITY, NOTES.—Mr. Jno. P. Altberger, manager of the Western Union, at the Union Depot, was quietly married to Miss Jessie Dale Pierce, on Christmas Eve. "Wier Plow Co." was rendered "W. E. Ciplow Co." by one of the day force, recently. Messrs Bowman and Hawley are spending vacations at their home in St. Louis. Mr. J. B. Cutler, of the Postal, has resigned to accept a railroad position in Florida.

The commercial cable force at Rockport, Mass., held an enjoyable watch party on New Year's eve, in the hall connected with the station. Toasts were in order,—first to the Company, coupled with Superintendent Herne, who responded most happily; next to the Nation, coupled with Mr. Upham, who did justice to the task of response; then to the Ladies, responded to by Mr. Edwards; then to the few invited guests, responded to by Capt. Thos. Coath, G. T. Margeson and Edward Upham; the Staff was toasted, which was responded to by Assistant Superintendent Coath, C. F. Mills, Frank Wilson, H. F. Harrington, R. R. Colly and C. C. Tresnon. The company broke up, after ushering in the new year, and receiving and sending congratulations, over land and under water, to various parts of the globe.

Wm. R. Gear, the well-known police telegraph operator of Brooklyn, has been appointed as aide-de-camp on the staff of Major Warner, the National Department Commander of the Grand Army of the Republic.

A select gathering of intimate friends and relatives assembled at the residence of Mrs. Lucy K. Marks, Brooklyn, Thursday, January 3d, to attend a reception following the marriage of her daughter, Ella Frances Marks, to J. Clayton Watts. The young couple were the recipients of many congratulations, and left by an early train for a brief tour through Washington and other Southern cities, followed by the customary showers of rice and dilapidated shoes. Mr. Watts is a prominent member of the W. U. force, this city, and is well-known throughout the country.

Irregularities which aggregate a considerable sum have been discovered in the main office of the Western Union, Boston, Mass. These methods were employed to defraud the company: The destruction of copies of telegrams filed there to be sent to other places, the destruction of copies of telegrams received there and the placing upon delivery slips numbers representing fictitious dispatches, for which the messengers were paid by the company according to schedule.

The Brattleboro and Townsland telephone line has been re-built together with the re-setting of Chestnut poles the entire distance.

Geo. H. Niles, an electrician, of Brattleboro, Vermont, has lately been improving on a dynamo, which he mechanically put together and tested with good success.

Mr. Frank Reynolds, of the W. U., Denver, Col., has left the telegraph business to accept a position with a Smelting Company. The four Reynolds brothers who were all at one time prominent in New York telegraph circles, are now actively engaged in other business pursuits at Denver.

Mr. P. W. Snyder, cashier of the W. U., at St. John, N. B., has been appointed manager of the C. P. R. Telegraph at the same place, the line of the latter company having reached that point. Mr. Snyder was with the W. U. twelve years and is a very popular gentleman.

Mr. N. C. Griswold, superintendent of the B. & O. R. R. telegraph, Pittsburgh, Pa., has accepted a similar position with the Northern Pacific Ry., at Spokane Falls, W. T., and is relieved at Pittsburgh by Mr. W. D. Vincent, a well-known operator.

The Commercial Cable Company has issued a calendar for 1889, similar to those given out last year. It shows the cable connections, while the neat calendar in the centre is made up of large plain blue figures making it very valuable.

At the annual meeting of the Mutual District Telegraph and Messenger Company, held January 9, Mr. W. W. Rider was for the fourth consecutive time reelected Secretary and General Manager of the Company.

Mr. M. B. Leonard has resigned as superintendent of telegraph of the Newport News & Mississippi Valley Company to accept a similar position on the Chesapeake & Ohio and Richmond & Alleghany roads.

Chief Operator Thrall, of the W. U., Rochester, N. Y., received on Christmas day a meerschaum pipe and two pounds of tobacco from the operators, as a mark of esteem in which he is held.

The *Post Express*, of Rochester, N. Y., with the assistance of the telegraph force at that point, made short work of a telegraph college, recently. The institution was closed without delay.

The highest telegraph officials in the United States are A. B. Chandler and G. G. Ward. When at their desks they are on the eleventh story; they are not stuck up either.

Mr. A. H. Bauer, electrician of the Pullman Palace Car Co., Chicago, is in town. Mr. Bauer was one of the B. & O. chief operators here up to the consolidation.

Sewell Morse of Brattleboro, Vt., has accepted a position as operator in the St. James' Hotel, Jacksonville, Fla., for which place he left January 2d.

Mr. B. L. Brannan of the 194 Broadway, is the author of a song and chorus entitled "The Heart is Truer than Before." It is pronounced excellent work.

M. F. Pease, of Des Moines, Ia., now claims to be the original inventor of the telephone. It is late in the day for him to break his pease:

Chas. E. Knight, a well-known New York lineman, has gone to Boston for the District Company.

Mr. John Campbell, manager of the Postal, Pittsburg, Pa., was in town last week.

A. L. Porter and L. C. Hughes, of Pittsburg, Pa., are at Trinity, Tex.

The five-year old son of J. G. McCloskey died last week.

Applicant to manager.—What's the chance of catching on?
Manager—Good.

Applicant—Whatcher pay?

Manager—What can you do?

Applicant—I never "broke" in my life.

Manager—Forty dollars.

Applicant.—I can't accept but \$30.

Manager—Good day, then.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS.

BORN.—To Mr and Mrs. F. F. Norton, of 443 Hancock street, Brooklyn, N. Y., December 29th, 1888, a daughter.

MARRIED.—James C. Moffatt, of the Erie and Wyoming Valley R. R., Scranton, Pa., was married January 2, to Miss Minnie Bishop, the daughter of a prominent mill owner. Mr. Moffatt is a brother of chief operator Moffatt, of the W. U. New York, and he has many friends here, where he worked up to five years ago.

MARRIED.—Coney—Bond. Thursday evening, December 27th, at Newark, N. J., by Rev. H. Goodwin, Edward A. Coney, of the W. U. Telegraph, Newark, formerly with B. & O., New York, to Miss Louisa C. Bond, of the Postal Telegraph Co., Birmingham, Conn.

MARRIED.—In Brooklyn, on January 2, J. Clayton Watts, of 195 Broadway New York, to Ella Francis Marks of Brooklyn, N. Y.

DIED.—B. Frank Gilmore, manager of the Western Union telegraph office and agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Chambersburg, Pa., died January 3d, aged forty-six years. He was one of the most expert telegraph operators in the State and rendered important service to the Government during the war.

DIED.—Harry Pierson, an old-time telegrapher, for the past three years wire chief for the Western Union, at Kansas City, Mo., died at that place last month, of consumption.

DIED.—Friday, December 24th, at Jersey City, N. J., D. Adah Allman, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Geo. F. Allman, aged one year and one week.

TRANSFERS.—W. K. Rogers, Port Arthur, Ont., to Sand Point, Idaho; J. H. Morford, to Marshall, Tex.; Miss Carrie H. Macy, Brunswick, Ga., to Jacksonville, Fla.; F. L. Barnhart, St. Paul, Minn., to Chattanooga, Tenn.; P. D. Wade, Jacksonville, Fla., to New Orleans, La.; G. H. Armstrong, Jacksonville, Fla., to Shreveport, La.; P. W. Williams, Nashville, Tenn., to Eaton Rapids, Mich.; F. P. Howard, San Francisco to Sacramento, Cal.; B. Hollorin, W. U., Rochester, N. Y., to B. R. & P. Lincoln Park, N. Y.; Jno. Luxon, Port Hope to Toronto, Ontario.

The wind storm of January 9th, demolished the telegraph wires pretty generally in Pennsylvania, all companies suffering alike.

BALTIMORE.—Mr. C. C. Wolff, of the night force was called to the bedside of his dying mother at Steubenville, Ohio, where he remained until the last rites had been paid to her on this earth; when Mr Wolff started on his sad journey, he carried with him the sympathy of all his associates. Likewise, Chief Operator Grape who mourns the loss of his honored father, who was laid to rest January 3d. Mr. Grape was one of Baltimore's oldest and most esteemed citizens. Mr. Geo. Plummer who has for the past two weeks been confined to his home with pleurisy, has reported for duty, which is a pleasure and relieves the anxiety felt for him by the entire force. Mr. E. J. Little, assistant night manager, has resigned and accepted the position as chief operator of the B & O. R. R. lines, which position was made vacant by the promotion of Mr. C. P. Adams, to a division chief operatorship. Mr. Adams was the chief operator of the late B. & O. Telegraph Company. The management of B. & O. Road are to be commended for their wise selection. Mr. P. G. Hess, of the night force has been appointed to succeed Mr. Little. Mr. Hess is one of the oldest employes of the W. U. in this city, and the management of this office is also to be commended on its choice for the assistant night chiefship. Mr. Marshall A. McCord, who sixteen years ago left the night force is again numbered among those who toil under the rays of the gas light. Mr. Virgil G. Hudgins, of the oyster and fruit packing district has resigned to accept a position in the dispatchers office at Danville, Virginia. The genial countenances of General Superintendent Merrihew and Secretary A. R. Brewer, were visible in this office a few days ago. Mr. George W. Clark of the Superintendent Office P. R. R., Altoona, Pa., and formerly of Baltimore, was married on December 20th, to the W. U. Manager at Mifflin, Pa. The happy couple visited Baltimore on their wedding tour. Mr. E. B. Cole of the Postal has gone to Annapolis, Maryland, to take charge of the Postal office which has been recently opened. Mr. Cole is of a very genial disposition, and we feel positive that he will be crowned with success in his new field of labor. Mr. F. J. Connor who superintended the construction of the new line from Baltimore to Annapolis deserves great credit for his promptitude in connecting the two cities. Mr. Becker has accepted a position with the A. D. T. Co. Mr. Thweatt transferred to the American Building *Vice* E. B. Cole. Mr. Wm. Ardison who is on a vacation is expected to report for duty in a few days. Mr. J. B. Yeakle, general manager of the A. D. T. Co., was presented with a handsome frame containing the photographs of his entire force. Mr. Yeakle being an "old timer," those present were pleasantly entertained by anecdotes of the trials, tribulations and incidents, both serious and comical, of the early operator, when the "sound" operator had not yet put in his appearance. Mr. Saylor late of the A. D. T., has accepted the position in the oyster and fruit packing district *Vice* V. G. Hudgins.

DETROIT.—The official axe fell on January 5th, and six telegraphers were headless. "Falling off of business" was the reason given in each case. Such an action was not entirely unexpected, but was rather more extensive than was anticipated. The gentlemen so suddenly decapitated were: Messrs. Gooding, Hancock, Cruice, Lee, Williams and Staley. Miss Ella Shannon is taking a three weeks' vacation. Bobby Burns is also on a two weeks' vacation. Mr. Robert Cuppage has just returned from a short visit to Chicago. Mr. J. M. Fair has resigned to accept a more lucrative position in the office of the superintendent of the A. & P. Company at Los Angeles, California. Mr. Fair carries with him the good wishes of the entire force. Mr. N. B. Booth has also resigned, and goes South. Jerry Cook of the Western Associated Press paid us a visit on the 4th inst.

Sleet played sad havoc with the Kansas City, Mo., telegraph wires on Christmas day.

BOSTON NOTES.—Arrivals, J. E. Benelisha, from Postal City; J. L. McLaughlin, Pittsburg, Pa.; F. M. Johnson, Postal, New York and H. C. Crosskill, Halifax, N. S. Departures, P. J. Cronin, to Postal, City; Miss E. T. Ellingwood, to broker, city, and J. Duggan, to broker, Lowell, Mass. Mr. W. H. Murray has returned to work after a long and painful illness. Mr. T. F. Clark, who has been on the absent list for some time past on account of a sore hand, has returned to work. Mr. F. E. Murphy has been assigned to Mr. Cronin's vacancy; Mr. Shorey, lately of Portland, Me., has been assigned to the Haverhill wire in place of Mr. Boyd, who has gone on the owl force. Messrs. Damien of the Worcester wire, W. E. Brown, of the Chicago, nights, and W. H. Travis have been enjoying holiday vacations. Messrs. Crosskill, Coulliard and Thompson, respectively, subbing. Mr. T. C. Divine cannot get reconciled to the day trick to which he was assigned some time ago. He changes places monthly with a different night operator, Mr. Roorbach, of first New York, being the latest. Mr. J. H. McGlinchy is also a regular day operator, who works nights all the year round. Mr. Joe Walton, of second New York and H. A. McDonald, of first Chicago, have changed places. The generosity of Mr. John Stetson, of the Globe theater, in this city, has been made manifest on many occasions lately, he having sent tickets for his beautiful theater to the W. U. operators through Superintendent Roche and Manager Henderson. Mr. Stetson is proprietor of a large broker office, and employs three or four operators. The Christmas number of the AGE was sought after with avidity, by subscribers and non-subscribers alike. All unite in pronouncing it excellent and all wish you a prosperous new year.

ST. PAUL, MINN., NOTES.—E. G. McConnell was appointed night chief here on December 15th, and Mr. John Knowd, traffic chief; Mr. Knowd subsequently changed off with Mr. Willard, taking the position as wire chief, days. The latter being night traffic chief now. Mr. and Mrs. Joe Jackson are spending the holidays at their home. Mr. Charles Finn, formerly of this office, came in to see us one night from Barnesville. Mr. O. M. Mitchell is working for Northern Pacific, at the general office here. Mr. Cadwallader is working for Rocky Mountain R. R., at Helena. The Christmas number was a dandy and the boys were much pleased with such a beautiful gift, particularly those who recognized the many faces in the album. All the boys wish you a happy new year and lots of success to your paper.

GOLD AND STOCK LIFE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.

QUARTERLY REPORT.

The Auditing Committee having examined and found correct, the accounts of the Secretary and Treasurer, for the quarter ending December 31, 1888, do hereby respectfully submit the following report.

Balance on hand, Sept. 30, 1888.....	\$1,724.00
Receipts:	
Fees.....	12.00
Dues.....	808.00
Total.....	\$2,544.00
Disbursements:	
Death Claims.....	\$ 450.00
Clerk's Salary.....	50.00
Postage.....	5.00
Balance on hand, Dec. 31, 1888.....	2,039.00
Total.....	\$2,544.00

Gain for the quarter..... 315.00

F. W. Baldwin, J. M. Moffatt and W. H. Jackson, Committee.

HEISLER ELECTRIC LIGHT SYSTEM SUCCESSFUL.

Early in Spring, 1887, both Electric Light Companies of Salt Lake City and Ogden City had concluded to start the incandescent electric light business in connection with their arc light plant. Having thoroughly tried the Multiple Series as well as the Accumulator, without having been able to obtain satisfactory results, they entered into communication with all prominent electric light manufactories in search of a suitable system.

The statements of the Heisler Electric Light Company, in course of a prolonged and exhaustive correspondence, seemed the most favorable to their project. The Directors of the Company resolved on making a thorough examination of the same at St. Louis in order to ascertain by personal inspection how the theoretical claims of long distance were maintained in actual practice, and what other features the system presented in regard to reliable service and to the quality of the light. The President of both Companies, Mr. David F. Walker, and the Manager of the Ogden Companies, Major V. M. Silva went to St. Louis.

The following letter of Mr. Walker, sent to a New York gentleman, refers to his visit and the investigation made, and explains the result:

"I examined the Heisler System myself, personally, in St. Louis for over two weeks, and I saw nearly 1000-30 C. P. lights running on a circuit of over 20 miles, and I talked with a number of customers night after night in the absence

and the Heisler Electric Light Company, guarantee that the loss will be very small, and the size of the wire we will use will be No. 9. The circuit for that City will be over 20 miles."

Dynamos of about 800 30 C. P. capacity were ordered for each of the stations. On the 10th of August the Ogden City *Daily Tribune* reports of an interesting test made in the Electric Light works in Ogden Canon of the C. P. of the lights, giving an exact description of the photometer used, and stating as the final result that the 30 C. P. lamps indicated 31 C. P.

"A careful estimate of the length of the circuits was made and it was found that it was little over 35 miles long, counting the line wires from the Canon and that wire in the buildings. This makes it the longest incandescent light circuit in the world so far as known.

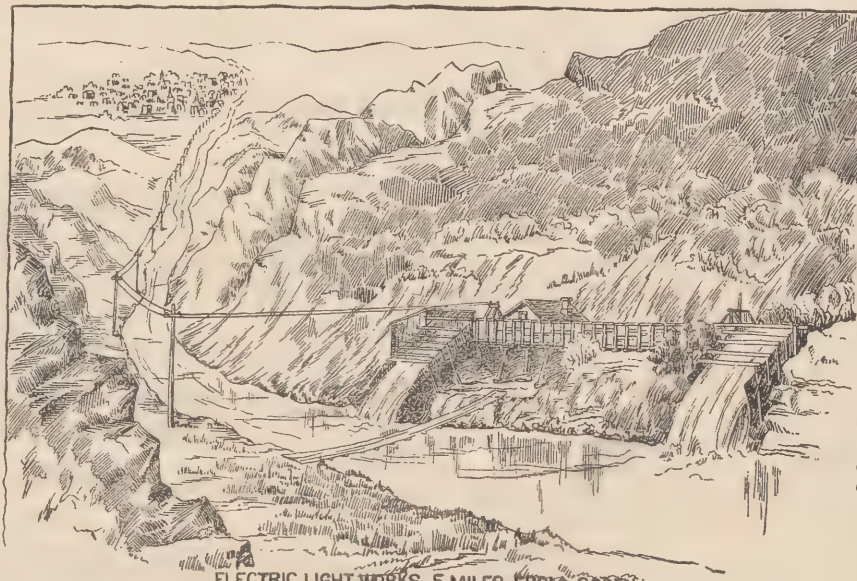
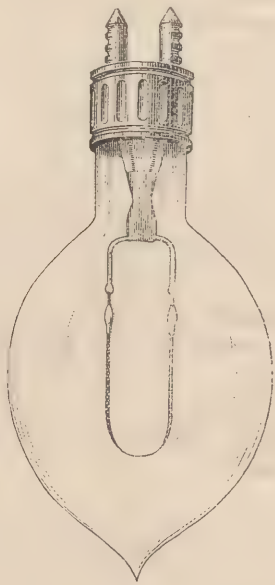
Mr. Walker stated that the wire alone for any other System would cost \$50,000,00 if they used as many miles as was used in the circuit."

The following extract of a letter dated September 6th, 1888, gives an account of the success of the system after twelve months of practical operation.

OGDEN, UTAH, Sept. 6th, 1888.

THE HEISLER ELEC. LIGHT CO.,
St. Louis, Mo.

GENTLEMEN:--In reply to yours of August 21st, 1888, I beg to say that the Heisler long distance system of Incan-



ELECTRIC LIGHT WORKS, 5 MILES FROM OGDEN.

of Mr. Heisler or any one in his interest, and all spoke of it in the highest terms.

"I also visited the St. Louis Illuminating Company's station, using the Heisler System, a number of times, and examined the machine critically and found no sparking or heating at the commutator or any part of the machine."

- In the same letter he states his reasons for adopting the System as follows: First.—"I adopted the Heisler Long Distance Incandescent System, because that Company guarantee seven 30 C. P. to the H. P.

Second.—They guarantee that the light of said lamps continues full 30 C. P. during the full life of the lamps.

Third.—The lamps can be placed at a long distance from the station at small cost for copper conductors, they only running a number 9 B. & S. Gauge wire, even when the lights are miles away from the dynamo. For one of the Companies of which I am President, the Ogden Electric Light Company, we are going to place the dynamo at Ogden Canon to run by water power, which is over 6 miles away from the City of Ogden where most of the lights will be needed,

descent lightning, which I have adopted, is giving our customers good satisfaction. We are using near 400-30 C. P. lights on our dynamo and with good results. We ran over twelve months without interaup. ion worth speaking of. The lights are brilliant and maintain their guaranteed candle power and the full life of the lamps.

We tested the dynamo and found it worked up to the capacity you guaranteed, namely, 340-30 C. P. lights, and also tested the candle power of the lamps and each proved fully 30 C. P.

In fact we find the system reliable and the light very brilliant, a beautiful color and everything equal to your representation and to our entire satisfaction.

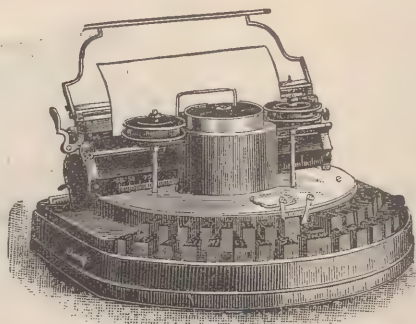
The benefits of this wise selection have come in the shape of dividends. The incandescent plant has been a financial success from the start.

Yours truly,

DAVID F. WALKER

Prest. of the Ogden City Elec. Light Co.

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LONDON AWARD, OCTOBER, 1887.

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MECHANICS' FAIR, BOSTON, DECEMBER, 1887.

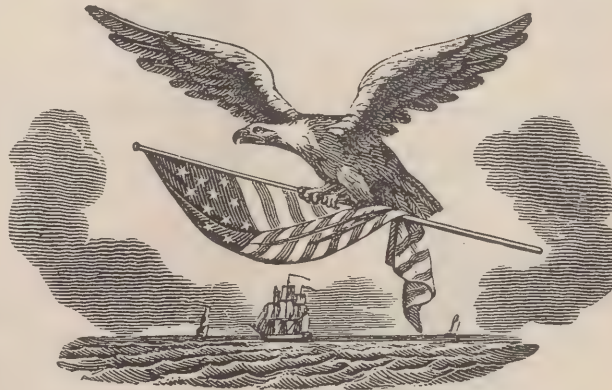
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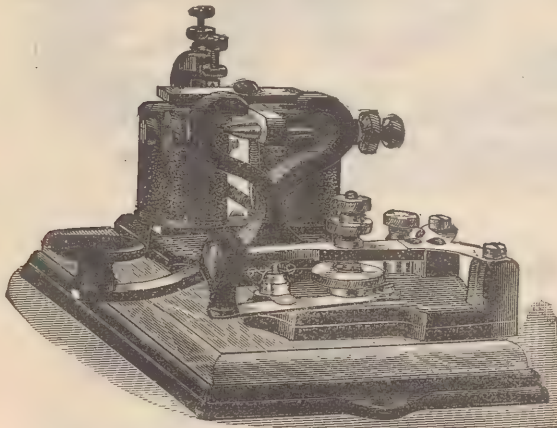
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Sounder, - - - 2.25

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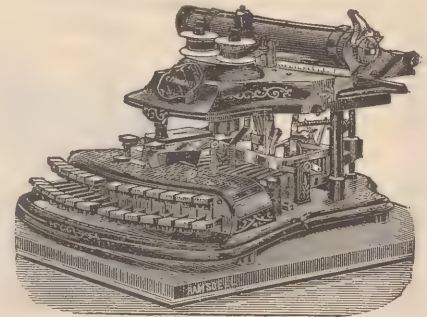
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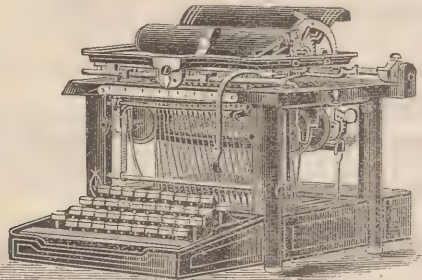
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Yours, truly, W. A. McALLISTER and A. J. BOOTH, Telegraph Staff.

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.

Yours, O. S. KENNEDY, Operator, *Evening Sun*.

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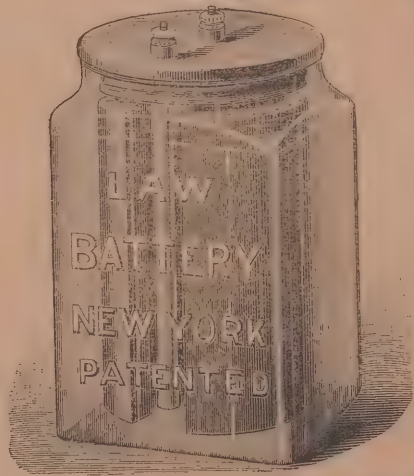
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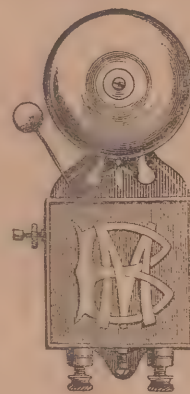
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VOL. VI—No. 17.

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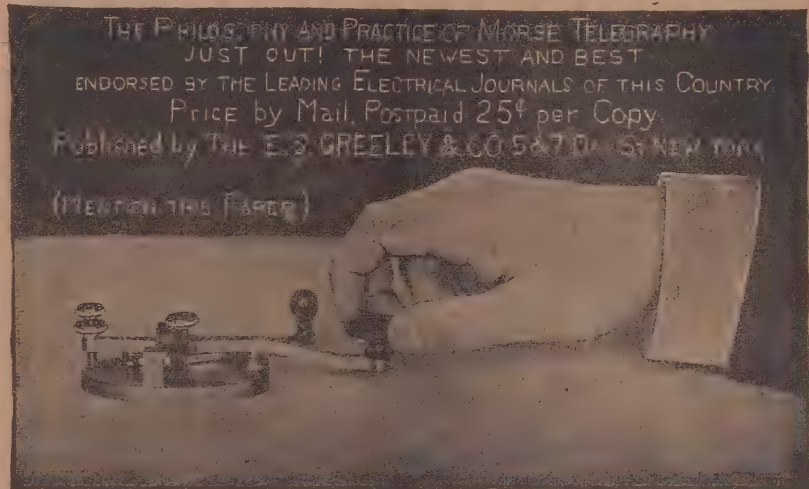
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The truth (referring to the true position of the telegrapher's hand in the act of "sending") exposed by a lightning wink of the instantaneous camera, and permanently fixed for our deliberate inspection by the science of photography, dawns upon the 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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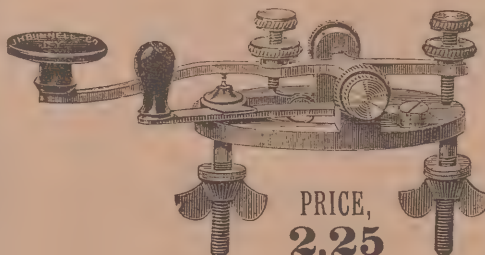
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C. G. Muller, Agent Caligraph, Cincinnati, O.

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.

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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.

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

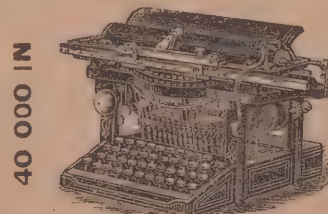
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NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 1, 1889.

Two Western Union linemen in New York City, have within a week lost their lives, caused by the breaking of rotten telegraph poles. The property of the Western Union must be in a high state of deterioration, when so many fatal results occur to those who are in the faithful discharge of their duty. No wonder that every time the wind attains a velocity of twenty-five miles an hour, the Western Union system is demoralized. What compensation, however, is there for the unfortunate families of the linemen, whose lives are unnecessarily sacrificed in this shocking manner?

A dispatch from Milwaukee says: "The first of the long-threatened suits against the Milwaukee stockholders of the old Great Western Telegraph company, by Elias E. Bowen, of Chicago, as receiver of the company, to recover a 35 per cent. assessment on the par value of the stock made by order of a Chicago court, has been brought against George Burnham. Burnham, it is alleged, subscribed for 1,000 shares of stock of the par value of \$25 each, upon which he has paid, it is averred, \$10 per share. The 35 per cent. assessment ordered by the Court to pay the indebtedness of the defunct company amounts to \$8.75 per share. The complaint avers that there are 2,000 people holding stock in the company, a number of whom reside in Milwaukee. The old company was indebted to the amount of \$400,000, to pay which it had no resources other than the unpaid amounts on the capital stock."

A boy goes into a machine shop; it will be but a few days before he knows the whole working of the machinery, from the driving wheel of the engine to the most complicated parts of the work. Now, compare that boy in the machine shop with the boy in the telegraph office. What does the telegraph boy know? He is absolutely dependent on the chief operator for everything. Be proficient in all things necessary to the successful work of your wire; learn why it don't work and learn how to make it work.

The Gold and Stock Life Insurance Company, whose annual report appears in another column, begins the twelfth year of its existence under exceptionally favorable conditions. One year ago there was a balance on hand of \$750. Today there is \$2,039. When it is considered that three deaths occurred during the year, the claims arising from which have been promptly met and a surplus of \$2,000 created, the wonder is how all this could be accomplished on fifty cents per month dues. The officers were unanimously re-elected as a mark of esteem and appreciation in which they are held by the members. The members are each urged to bring in one new member during the coming year.

A well-known newspaper gentleman and a prominent author, a few days ago expressed himself to the editor of this paper as astonished at the unusual amount of excellent creative literary talent in the ranks of the telegraphic profession as evinced in the columns of the AGE in the issues of December 16th and January 1st. The stories published in those issues, he declares, would do credit to the renowned authors. This is certainly a great compliment to the profession at large, but it is deserving of the honor and recognition.

The Mexican Telegraph Company, with headquarters at the City of Mexico, has arranged for a new cable across the Gulf. The Texas end of the company's lines was removed from Brownsville to Galveston some years ago. Its connections are through the South American Telegraph Company, which has wires across the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, and business has so increased as to require additional facilities.

The Western Union proposes in about 30 days to rebuild its entire line from Mobile to Montgomery. The wires will be relaid from the door of the Mobile office, to the door of the Montgomery office, and a large force of workmen will push the reconstruction of the line as fast as possible. The poles to be used are mostly of Alabama cedar, and are of the finest quality.

Rumor has it in Philadelphia that a new telegraph line will be erected between New York and Chicago in opposition to the Western Union, and adds that, though the matter has not yet fully developed, the project is in the hands of men with money, and that a feature will be the renting of private wires at an unprecedentedly low price.

The Pacific Postal is extending its lines from Alameda to Los Angeles, Cal. The line will run to Niles and continue over the mountains to San Joaquin Valley. Two copper wires will be stretched upon the poles.

John J. Moore, who built the Mutual Union Telegraph lines, and has a fortune of from \$2,000,000 to \$3,000,000, came to New York not many years ago with only \$30 to his name.

There is danger that, in scaling down wages, the ability of the men and their interest in their work may be scaled down as well.—*Ex.*

Telegraph companies in New York City and other places where the overhead system prevails, employ a corps of men who make regular inspections of the lines and test the poles. One of these "gimlet men," while boring a hole in a "stick" in New York the other day, was accosted by a reporter for an explanation. "I am going to find out how long this stick will stand up," he said, twisting the handle rapidly. "I am employed by the company that owns the pole and it is my business to go about the streets making inspections like this. Every pole is numbered, and when I make my report the company takes action according to the condition of the wood. This is the only way we can tell how strong a pole is, for decay begins beneath the surface and works toward the center.

THE MAGNETIC CLUB RECEPTION.

The winter meeting of the Magnetic Club took place at Martinelli's, on January 23d, and proved to be a most enjoyable affair throughout. The humorous speeches, the songs and music, were excellently rendered and much appreciated, while the complete surprise to Mr. Dealy, in the presentation to him of an excellent photographic group of all the chief operators in the main office, in a beautiful gilt frame, was the feature of the banquet. The programme was a long one, but enjoyable from the beginning to the end.

President Bruch presided in his usual clever and happy manner. He was never at a loss for droll anecdotes in introducing speakers or making announcements. After grace was pronounced by Mr. T. P. Scully, an excellent *menu* was served, which closely occupied the attention of every one from 6:30 to 9:30.

Mr. Willis H. Jones, who is, by the way, leader of a well-known Jersey City orchestra, then rendered appropriate musical selections.

Mr. Wm. J. Dealy occupied the attention of the club for a few minutes with one of his excellent speeches.

President Bruch then called upon Mr. E. F. Howell, who advanced to the head of the long magnet-shaped table, near where Mr. Dealy was seated, and looking that gentleman steadily in the face, and in a pathetic tone of voice, said:

"By the kind permission of the Magnetic Club, and representing the members of this group, I have the honor of presenting you with the first copy of this portrait received from the studio." (Here Mr. Dealy was handed by Mr. Moody the beautiful photographic group of his chief operators, referred to above.)

"The animating power that brought this large number of telegraphers together, and which is marked, and will be commemorated by this picture, is that feeling of happy unanimity that prevails in the New York office. This spirit of harmony is not confined to those included in the picture, but has its mainspring in our honored Manager, and runs downward to the humblest messenger.

"The sole reason that this picture does not contain the faces of every man, woman and child at 195 Broadway, is the impossibility of the photographic art to make such a vast undertaking successful.

"This picture is accompanied by the respect and esteem of every one. We wish you a long life and abundant prosperity, and as each ensuing year, with its inevitable changes, adds its own peculiar value in making this an historical picture, may you recognize herein the faces of your most devoted and faithful friends." [Loud applause.]

Mr. Dealy was so completely surprised that it was some time before he could recover his self-possession to respond, when he said:

"I thank you from the very depths of my heart, and with all its sincerity. It does not seem quite fair that you should all call on me at once, but I am glad to be here to receive you. Growing up as I have done with many of you, I see also many who have grown up with me, and in that picture I recognize the very threads of my life. You have struck a chord—I shall not forget it. When I came here to-night, I did not expect that the dinner would so effect you that I would be obliged to carry you all home, but under the circumstances, it is the most pleasant duty that I have ever had to perform, and in all your troubles, trials and cares, as well as in your sorrows, joys and pleasures, I am always with you."

Mr. D. C. Donohue then sang a beautiful song, which was much appreciated and applauded.

Mr. R. D. Blumenfeld, an old and well-known operator, now editor of the *Evening Telegram*, entertained the club with some very funny telegraph and tramp experiences.

Mr. A. F. Hurd added many names of admirers to his already long list of friends by the pleasing manner in which he distinguished himself in a song, which was heartily applauded.

After recitations by Mr. Duryee, Mr. T. C. Martin, of the *Electrical World*, related some amusing telegraphic reminiscences.

Mr. J. K. Calvert then entertained the club with appropriate remarks, and Mr. Marsh and Mr. W. H. Baker added their good will to the occasion.

Mr. D. W. McAneeny was never in better voice than on this occasion, as was evident by the fact that he was encored three times. Mr. McAnneny is a hard worker in the interest of the club, and is deserving of his extreme popularity.

Mr. W. L. Ives, better known as Senator Ives, was given an opportunity to display his oratorical powers, and his charming and appropriate remarks were eagerly listened to and boisterously applauded at every point. The Senator covered himself with glory.

Mr. George K. Walcott then sang the "Sword of Bunker Hill" in his usual happy manner.

The President made the announcement that at the next meeting the ladies would be invited to attend, and the members expected to bring their wives, sisters or sweethearts.

After singing Auld Lang Syne "30" was given.

The following people were present:

Lant S. Jones, Jno T. Stephenson, Wm. L. Ives, T. A. Brooks, Geo. Boehm, Wm. H. Baker, Walter Brown, Edward C. Cockey, M. R. Cockey, Wm. G. Magowan, Geo. F. Fagan, Rupert G. Stephenson, Geo. K. Walcott, Martin J. Dixon, George W. Duryee, Edwin F. Howell, W. A. Hennessey, T. F. Rice, J. H. Montgomery, Geo. W. Little, S. H. Mabie, R. J. Hutchinson, C. G. Howard, W. J. Morrison, F. S. Raymond, A. G. Hummel, R. L. Bamford, W. H. Moffet, T. G. Singieton, D. C. Donohue, R. T. McNamara, Terence Conaty, John M. Moffatt, O. R. Robertson, W. H. Jackson, J. B. Taltavall, W. J. Dealy, Charles P. Bruch, T. P. Scully, W. J. Johnston, T. C. Martin, George E. Baker, D. B. Mitchell, E. F. Cummings, E. E. Brannin, H. A. Moody, C. A. Meyer, M. H. Toomey, J. S. Bennett, J. McKenzie, George E. Holbrook, Paul Sheehan, T. B. Fullon, R. D. Blumenfeld, Joseph Knittle, Wm. Blanchard, F. B. Bailey, J. K. Calvert, Thomas Brennan, W. B. Waycott, D. W. McAneeny, C. P. Flood, A. F. Hurd, J. R. Heidemark, J. H. Lounsbury, J. E. Miller, Willis H. Jones, Oscar Lang, Frank W. Stimson, Frank Holmes, W. T. Moffat, J. J. Barry, John H. Fleming, C. D. Marsh, T. E. Fleming, H. G. Kitt, M. J. O'Leary, F. O. Nourse, John Brant.

BIGBEE.—Ticker, how long does it take a man to become a first-class operator?

Ticker.—Oh, 'bout three years.

Bigbee.—How long have you been in the business?

Ticker.—Oh, 'bout three years!—*Puck*.

It was decided in Chicago that a telegraph company is responsible for an error in the transmission of a message, notwithstanding any notice to the contrary on its forms.

An agent for the Postal Telegraph & Cable Company has asked business men of Oshkosh, Wis., to subscribe for scrip to encourage the company in extending its lines through that city. The company agrees to redeem the scrip in services as soon as the line is extended to Oshkosh. The scheme meets the approbation of the press and public of that place, as it is looked upon as a good investment, while the company will reap great advantages by securing this advancement, which will be not only a working capital but a guarantee of future business, and the merchants of Oshkosh think they will also be benefited by securing reduced rates, which competition will certainly bring.

The operator, at Deland, Fla., was told by a wire chief to try No. 6. "What do you mean by try No. 6?" asked Deland. The chief asked him, if he knew how to try a wire? "By the pin," said the ruralist, whereupon the chief collapsed.

WASHINGTON NOTES.—In your last issue I presented your readers with the personnel of the night force of the Washington office. There were several omissions in the same, which I deem necessary to rectify in justice to the high standing of a couple of the gentlemen; I refer to Mr. Fred Royce, who works the printer, and is acknowledged the most expert manipulator of the machine, in the country; also to Mr. E. W. Smithers, who was classed with the city line staff. Mr. Smithers works the "Washington Press" circuit, taking report on the type writer. The changes spoken of in my last letter have been completed, and the operating and clerical departments have been made one. It adds to the operating room space for thirty-two more tables, which Manager M. Marean will at once have placed in position to accommodate the large rush of business which generally accompanies an inauguration. The present outlook is very significant, telegraphically speaking. There will, without doubt, be the largest crowd at the Harrison inauguration that Washington has witnessed for many a day. All the hotels, public buildings, boarding houses and private residences that can be utilized are ticketed for their full capacity. If "Tip" should visit us on the day of his inauguration, we will receive him with a smile and present to him the largest and best arranged office south of New York, and the AGE will be present to crave his subscription. Among the day force of the office are R. W. Bender, chief; E. L. Bugbee, electrician; W. B. Harveycutter, traffic chief; T. E. Maddex, assistant wire chief; A. S. Adams, A. A. Columbus, J. F. Connor, Mary J. Corey, S. L. Dickson, H. W. Dowling, R. T. J. Falconer, R. W. Farrelly, S. A. Gallatin, W. H. Harrison, A. H. Kanode, W. A. King, R. H. Smith, A. J. Lombard and J. W. Stuart, Printer. J. R. O'Connor, C. L. McArthur, E. A. Spear, A. A. Herbert, W. O. Latchford, Jos. Little, J. T. Johnson, G. T. Howe, L. V. Luber, W. H. Kimball, J. A. O'Brien, J. E. Hayes, J. H. Hazel, C. C. Oliver, A. Spear, J. Tabler, P. A. Venable and R. C. Haywood; M. E. Cahill, W. P. Bowers, all round "Extras." E. W. Thompson has been transferred to night press specials. J. W. Bender and T. F. Young work the C. N. D. wire and ticker; J. H. King, cashier; C. S. King, bookkeeper, to cashier; C. C. Mothersead, receiving clerk; F. T. Avery, delivery clerk; P. A. Simpson, night receiving clerk; E. A. Barnard, night delivery clerk; J. C. Noyes, bookkeeper; G. Jones, error and supply clerk; checks, day, F. McHugh, Rose Callan, W. W. Van Arnum; night checks, E. Brown, W. Lunsford, J. A. Rodier, C. Norris, R. Layton; Assistants to Mr. Noyes and Jones, F. H. Norris, Roberta L. Callan, May Dyer, Kate Clapp, Annie Grady, Amie Jones, Mary L. Noyes, Mrs. C. Q. Smoot and Henry Pfaff; all night clerk, R. W. Norris.

ST. JOHN, N. B., NOTES.—The following changes have taken place in the W. U. staff here. P. W. Snyder, cashier, resigned, to take managership of C. P. R. Telegraph. Geo. M. Robertson, night chief, appointed cashier, and F. McC. Bailey, of the day force, was promoted to Mr. Robertson's vacancy. Mr. Bailey was once our champion skater, and is the possessor of eleven medals and a silver cup. H. H. Alingham has resigned, to accept a more lucrative position with the C. P. R. M. J. Morris, operator, with Ledden Bros., brokers, has accepted a position in C. P. R. Jno. F. Richardson, chief electrician of the C. P. R., is in the city, looking after the interests of his company.

READING PA., NOTES.—At the main office of the P. R. & P. Telegraph Company, Mr. A. S. Miller is manager; H. Brown, chief, and Geo. C. Williams, Howard Schenck, W. H. Runyeon, M. Lewis, E. C. Runyeon and Mr. Albright. At the main W. U. office, Mr. A. J. Darlington is manager with W. H. Hamader, T. J. Savage, W. R. Fisher and A. G. Bowman. E. R. Adams is now assistant superintendent of the P. & R. R. R., with headquarters in Philadelphia.

JACKSONVILLE, FLA.—Mr. J. P. Rivers is now chief operator and a better or more popular man could not be found. Mr. Geo. Harris is night chief. Mr. Tony Hernandez, from Savannah, and Mrs. M. S. Jones, manager, Tallahassee, paid us a flying visit recently, owing to a break in the Cuba cable, between Punta Rassa and Key West. The company have two swift tugs, carrying despatches between those points. Mr. Hellings, the cable manager, has been out in the Gulf since January 5th, after the trouble. He has met with very bad weather and heavy seas. Arrivals: Bassett, from Savannah; Stroud, from New York Cable office; Miss Macy, from Brunswick, Ga.; Paul and Frank Wiggs and Geo. C. Harris, from Atlanta; Smith, from New York; Wisner, from Palatka, Fla.; McLeod, from Columbus, Ga.; Canova, from St. Augustine; Mr. Smith leaves on 15th, to travel for Henry Clews & Co., of New York. Mr. Ansley, from St. Augustine, relieves him. Mr. Wisner has resigned, and is going to Panama. Bookkeeper Webb, has resigned, to go into other business. Departures: G. H. Armstrong, for Shreveport, La.; P. D. Wade, for New Orleans.

TORONTO NOTES.—Geo. McMahon, of the G. N. W. Tel. Co., Kingston, Ont., has gone West to become assistant superintendent of Portland, Oregon, district of the Western Union. He was presented with a handsome sum of money by his many friends on the occasion of his departure; Mr. Green, of the C. P. R. Tel. Co., here, has been generally congratulated upon the recent arrival of a daughter. The annual meeting of the shareholders of the Montreal Telegraph Company was held on the 10th ultimo, in Montreal. The president, Mr. Andrew Allan, was absent through indisposition, caused by a severe cold, and it was consequently decided to transact *no other* business than was rendered absolutely necessary by the statute. Mr. Hector McKenzie, the senior member of the directorate, was "moved" to the chair. Thomas Workman asked if any communication had been received from the Western Telegraph Company. The chairman answered in the negative. The meeting was then adjourned until the 23d ultimo.

ERIE RAILROAD NOTES.—Personnel of Jersey City dispatcher's office, day force: B. E. Moody, chief dispatcher; David Halliday, day inspector; F. W. Ewerz, W. E. Coleman, W. A. Sturms and W. T. Mapes, day operators; A. R. Gramlich, split tricks; night force: W. F. Casey, chief night dispatcher; P. A. Lord and P. H. Pindell, dispatchers; D. C. Yost, J. A. Gillen and M. C. Roach, operators. On Greenwood Lake and N. R. R. Division, Chas. Haring is chief dispatcher; W. P. Haring, dispatcher; C. H. Edsall and G. B. Minshull, operators; M. J. Maloney, formerly of the day force, has been promoted to dispatcher. W. H. Daley is chief dispatcher's clerk. At "Paterson" we have M. Nolan, days, with P. J. Garvey, nights. This is one of the Erie's liveliest points, and much credit is due to Messrs. Nolan and Garvey for performing their duties so well.

NASHVILLE, TENN.—Mr. P. L. Stevenson, of the night force, and Miss B. M. Davis, of Ohio, were married at the bride's home on December 24th. Best wishes for a long and happy union. On Christmas, Manager Fisher was presented with an easy chair, and night chief Rust with a handsome gold-headed ebony cane, by the operators. Both gentlemen were very profuse in their thanks, and New Year's eve Mr. Rust reciprocated by banqueting the night force. The *menu* consisted of substantial and delicacies, to which all did justice. Mr. R. H. Hunt has the sympathy of all in the sad loss of his only child. Mr. A. V. Johnson spent the holidays with his mother, at Charlotte, Mich.

APPOINTMENT.—William J. Lloyd, for the past four years chief operator for the Western Union Telegraph Company at Chicago, has been appointed assistant superintendent of the company *vice* Joseph Uhrig, resigned to engage in other business.

GOLD AND STOCK INSURANCE ASSOCIATION.—The eleventh annual meeting of this association was held in New York on January 14th, President Hutchinson presiding. His report reads as follows :

The year just past, the eleventh of the existence of your Association, presents a record of continued prosperity, fully justifying the wisdom of the adoption at the last Annual Meeting, of the changes in the Constitution and By-Laws.

Through the abolition of the clause which practically prohibited the accumulation of a Reserve Fund, your Association has without recourse to arbitrary assessments, been enabled from its income from dues alone, to anticipate in accordance with the desire of the beneficiaries, payments on two death claims, and yet to move steadily toward the minimum of reserve now demanded. * * * * *

Our roll of membership since the last report shows a flattering increase of nearly 25 per cent. While this is a subject of pride and congratulation—and justly so—it nevertheless indicates a marked falling off in the percentage of increase as compared with that made in 1887. This fact admonishes us that the field near at hand has been fairly covered and that if we would maintain our steady growth, we must extend our lines. With a view, therefore, to such extension, many gentlemen throughout the country, prominent in telegraphy and known to be interested in life insurance matters, have been corresponded with. The responses received have been in every instance favorable to our plan as well as to our development, and an encouraging addition to our ranks has already resulted. The greatest care has been exercised by your Executive Committee in deciding upon the applications thus received, and the member secured in any city or district, becomes at once an agent competent to pass upon the eligibility of future applicants. Our organization while reserving the right to exact in any case a rigid medical examination, has at all times chiefly relied upon a personal history of the health and habits of the applicants, supported, of course, by the vouchers of the proposing members ; and our comparatively low death rate thus far, can be pointed to as an endorsement of the soundness of this policy. It may be added that even during the great increase of 1887, when your Association, previously limited to a membership of Gold and Stock Company's Employes, became known to telegraphers generally in this vicinity and more than doubled its membership, such was the caution observed in the examination of candidates, that it has not yet transpired that a single unsound risk was then admitted. The interest of your officers in the work already accomplished and the extension contemplated, is identical with that of each individual member—no more, no less ; and I feel authorized to speak for the entire Executive Committee in declaring that ample requital for their labors will be found in our progress and permanency, ends to be secured only by the cheerful and energetic co-operation of all. Let us then earnestly strive to widen our field of operations and usefulness. Let us move hand-in-hand with that older monument to the prudence and foresight of the American Operator—The Telegraphers' Mutual Benefit Association—neither in conflict with the other, but each bringing sunlight to dispel the shadows cast by the reaper's scythe.

The Secretary Wm. J. Dealy read his report as follows :

Members at last Report.....	418
" admitted since last Report.....	119
Lapsed.....	30
Died.....	2
	32

Present membership.....505

The success of your Association during the past year, to-

gether with the fact that it has recently become known throughout the country, having members in Massachusetts, Connecticut, New York State, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, District of Columbia, Ohio, Michigan, Illinois, Missouri and Texas, seems to justify the belief that its plan of Income Insurance is precisely what telegraphers generally need.

In cases where there is other insurance, the beneficiaries get the greatest benefit from the monthly payments. And in cases where there is other insurance, the larger single payment amounts may be used for investment, while the "Income" from the Gold and Stock provides for necessities.

Your Association is in a healthy condition. The average age of its members is low. It is strong financially. Its expenses are nominal. The dues, 50 cents per month, place it within the means of all, and the good that it has done, and is destined to do, should prompt every eligible man to join it.

The treasurer reported :

Total receipts.....	\$3,789 17
" expenses.....	1,750 17
Balance in treasury.....	\$2,039 00

The old officers were unanimously re-elected as follows : R. J. Hutchinson, president ; A. J. Driver, vice-president ; Wm. J. Dealy, Secretary ; M. Breslin, treasurer ; T. J. Sullivan, W. H. Collins, E. F. Cummings, J. W. McLaren and C. P. Flood, executive committee. F. W. Baldwin, J. M. Moffatt and W. H. Jackson, auditing committee.

TELEGRAPHERS' AID SOCIETY OF PHILADELPHIA—ANNUAL MEETING.—The annual meeting of the Telegrapher's Aid Society was held on January 14th, J. E. Janney presiding. Many of the ladies, by their presence, indicated their interest in the Society's welfare. Although the Society has only been in existence eleven months, its success is remarkable. The retiring Recording Secretary (C. B. Wood) reported a membership of 201 ; receipts \$834.97 ; expenses \$199.15. One death and a total of twelve week's sickness. The report was received with enthusiasm. The following officers and executive committee were elected : President, J. C. Berrett ; Vice-President, W. D. Shuster ; Recording Secretary, W. E. Vanarsdall ; Financial Secretary, A. W. Ford ; Treasurer, H. W. Hetzel. Executive Committee, Miss Merrick, J. W. Benkert, C. Heinzeroth, F. C. Megonigal, H. W. Given, J. E. Janney. At the close of business Mr. Berrett had the pleasant duty of presenting his predecessor in the presidential chair, J. E. Janney, with a handsome ice pitcher, as a mark of recognition of his untiring efforts in organizing the society. The members did not consider a thread-bare vote of thanks sufficient reward for his indefatigable zeal. Mr. Janney, in thanking the members, expressed his surprise and looked it too. He had expected no further reward than this hearty co-operation, which had been given from the first, and in retiring, it was a pleasant reflection to him that that co-operation had resulted in such eminent satisfaction. During the election, Messrs. James Donnelly and Campbell acted as tellers and Mr. J. K. P. Weir, judge.

RAPID TYPEWRITING. There was an exhibition of rapid typewriting in New York, January 11th, in which Miss M. E. Orr, of this city, who holds the record for the largest number of words a minute, was pitted against the Western champion, Mr. Frank E. McGurrin, of Salt Lake City. Miss Orr came out ahead, writing 139 words correctly in sixty seconds, against 137 words by Mr. McGurrin. Miss Orr's best record is 144 words a minute, made at an exhibition in Boston, a few days ago.

HURON, DAK.—Mr. A. Booth is manager for the W. U. He has held the ruling hand for five years, until last Christmas, when he was married to a charming lady of this place. Art. W. Copps and J. A. Duncan manipulate the keys. The division and admission question is causing a boom in business, particularly specials. Should Dakota become a State, we have the best prospects for the capitol. The AGE comes, as a kind of a 'God send' to us. Being boys of the East, we appreciate all the news, which our paper always contains. The Christmas number was a gem.

CLEVELAND NOTES.—A. T. McManus has resigned and is now employed by a cable street car line in Steubenville, Ohio. Mr. Baker, from Postal, is subbing here. W. E. Fohl who was married a few weeks ago, has returned to work. Among the sick, John Andres is improving and expects to return to work soon. Harry Eldred, a former member of the force, is very low with consumption. New Year's day a collection was taken and a nice basket of flowers sent to each of the last named. Miss Sadie Tool is quite sick with a fever. The W. U. force contains quite a number of prominent representatives of secret societies. Chief Operator Gurley is the present master of one of the largest Masonic lodges in the State, Iris, No. 229. Traffic Chief Stockwell is past master of Forest City, No. 388. Night Traffic Chief Morris is past master of Parish lodge Buffalo. Superintendent's Clerk Cadmus is past master of Bigelow, No. 243. Assistant Wire Chief Siebel is senior warden of Ellsworth, No. 505, H. W. Jeffers is present senior deacon of Forest city, No. 388. Manager Hill is secretary of Tyrian, No. 370, a lodge composed of the best and leading business men of the city. Superintendent's private clerk Douglass is past noble Grand of one of the most prominent lodges of Odd Fellows in the city. He has also had the honor to serve as district deputy grand master for the State of Ohio. At the installation of the officers of Forest City, No. 388, Mr. Stockwell was presented with an elegant past master's jewel.

BOSTON.—The management of the Financial Telegram Company has lately undergone a change. Mr. C. F. Parker, formerly of the Commercial Telegram Co., of New York, has been appointed superintendent, and his work on the system already shows for itself. He is ably assisted by Mr. R. J. Shannon, also of New York, in the capacity of chief operator. Mr. T. L. Dalton receives on the first side of the quad, and while this is a position that requires great accuracy, he fills the bill admirably. Mr. E. F. Reeder is the expert manipulator on the stock key-board, and also holds down the second side of the quad during the time Mr. W. R. Kennedy, our extra key-board man is working on the stock board. Miss L. McDermand works the grain key-board, Andrew McCoy looks after the ticker system and the dynamos, J. Frank Mixer is inspector, and his brother, Arthur, officiates as lineman. This company has a complete stock-ticker system, and the service is as fast as it is possible to make it. It is estimated that less than fifteen seconds elapse between the transaction on the New York Stock Exchange and the recording of the same on the tickers here. The Chicago grain service is also excellent, and seems to be appreciated, as this company has double the number of subscribers that the Gold and Stock Company has. The oil quotations of the New York Petroleum Exchange are also printed on the grain ticker. On the 8th of February next, the most important and interesting event in the lives of Boston operators takes place, as on the evening of that date the grand ball of the Literary Aid and Mutual Benefit Association occurs. Tickets are going as fast as the proverbial hot cakes, and every indication is manifest that it will be a grand success, both financially and socially, as on former occasions. Every one has a look of expectancy and doubt on his face, and hopes and fears rack the heart of each member of the association when the thought of the coming festival comes up. I say

doubt, because of scarcity of substitutes for that evening and this alone, is sufficient to keep the night men awake thinking of some scheme to obtain a substitute for this most important event. The day men are as anxious as their night brethren, for if the day is stormy it will hold them, in order to clear the business which accumulates when the wires work heavy and slow. Everybody is going, in the vicinity of Boston, and a large number from New York and the West promise to grace the occasion with their presence.

Many wealthy people from the Back Bay attend our dances, and have in the past shown an interest in our behalf both in a financial way and by taking part on the ball-room floor. The bankers of Boston patronize the ball, and the representatives of Boston's wealthiest men have been at our entertainment in the past, and promise to attend this one. It behooves each male operator to procure an escort for this occasion. The association is in a healthy financial condition, and the good work it has performed the past year ought to be an inducement for everybody to become a member. President O'Connor, on his retirement, read his annual report, and that is the only time during my career that I regretted the fact that I was not a stenographer. It was a masterly piece of literary work, and called forth the plaudits of his listeners. His speech is to be printed.

Mr. R. E. Tobin was elected President, and Matthew C. Harrington Vice-President. Mr. Geo. H. Winston, the genial night manager of the Postal is Secretary, H. W. Gillespie Treasurer, and John A. Kenra Financial Secretary. These men need no encomiums from me whatever. They are known far and near as gentlemen, and are at all times anxious to help the deserving unfortunate, of course. John O'Connor, of the Western Union, who was terribly scalded by boiling water, at his home, Christmas eve, is again at work at the Parker House. The attendants at the City Hospital said it was one of the worst cases of scalding they had ever seen.

PHILADELPHIA ELECTRICAL SOCIETY.—The officers of this society are as follows; President, M. D. Law, Vice President L. H. Spellier, J. C. Sager and Chas. M. Knapp; Recording Secretary, G. Clarence Brooks; Financial Secretary, H. J. Curl; Treasurer, A. F. Reed; Board of Managers, C. M. Knapp, Ch'n. M. D. Law, G. C. Brooks, R. J. Park, W. Devereaux, L. H. Spellier, H. J. Curl, C. L. Chapin, F. W. Griffin, A. H. Manwarien, J. C. Sager, A. J. Reed, C. D. Shrieve, W. McDevitt, D. A. Curl.

The programme for the coming year, includes all the important electrical subjects of to day.

DISGRACING THE PROFESSION.—Some weeks since an advertisement appeared in this journal, for a young man to go to Panama. It was inserted by a well known establishment. J. P. Salisbury, who has been in the employ of various district telegraph companies in Brooklyn, N. Y., applied for and obtained the position, contracting to remain in the service of the house for one year. His passage was paid, and he sailed on 31st ultimo by the steamer, "City of Para." After remaining in Panama less than two days, he skipped for parts unknown by the connecting California steamer, and did not forget to borrow money from his employers, a feature eminently in keeping with his other action.

CHARLOTTE, N.C.—Mr. R. C. Thompson is manager of the W. U., with operators, Charles R. Sterne, Samuel E. Lumpkin, Oscar B. Watson, T. B. Goodwin, J. Thomas Goodrum and Fred L. Wood, all of whom are well-known to the fraternity. Business has increased over one hundred per cent. at this point during the past year, and both Associated and United Press is taken. At the Union depot the amiable dispatcher, C. C. Kennedy, presides with J. B. and T. H. Faulkner, E. S. Dodge, J. E. Scofield and Mr. McFarland, operators.

PHIL PEPPER'S CHRISTMAS.

By JOHN H. MILLER.

Phil Pepper signed the voucher with a bold flourish. This was the first time he had ever drawn an operator's salary and he was so impressed with the importance of the occasion that he gave the pay-roll the benefit of his full name—Philip Watson Pepper—a bit of facetiousness that quite paralyzed the cashier of the big telegraph office where Phil had just completed his first month of service, and caused that official to audibly observe that "some people are pretty 'fresh.'"

Well, maybe Phil Pepper was a little "fresh." He looked it, anyway. His cheeks were of a blooming red, and his eyes were bright and merry; his nose was decidedly snub—not a very handsome snub, either, and one that seemed to be in constant fear of being engulfed by a very large mouth; for it insisted on maintaining a right-angled relationship with that member and stubbornly pointed north, north-east, as if it were a signboard warning the unwary to beware of the depths below. Besides all this, if a very white head, of doubtful cut, and a very fuzzy chin that had obviously never known a razor, are to be taken as a fair criterion of "freshness," Philip Watson Pepper was no stale egg.

He was fresh. All the operators said so, and they were knowing fellows, too. And he was stingy. That was certain. For he held lodgings in the cheapest quarter of the city and took his meals on the commutation plan at a cheaper restaurant. If any further evidence were needed to prove that Phil Pepper was "fresh" and stingy and mean, it might be found in the grievous assertions of his associates that he neither drank whiskey, smoked nor chewed tobacco.

"No, thank you," Phil would say; "I told mother when I left home that I wouldn't drink, and you know she wouldn't like it if I did.

There were some fifteen or twenty operators in the big office and Phil Pepper—the honest, innocent, unsophisticated little country boy, the latest addition to their number was soon dubbed "Mother's boy," and mercilessly taunted by them for his refusal to join their drinking parties. But Phil didn't care for that. He took their taunts and sneers good-naturedly and sometimes even laughed heartily at their jokes at his own expense.

So, when the cashier growled his displeasure at "freshie's" presumptuous signature, Phil only smiled and said, "Thank you, sir," and carefully stowing the money in a safe pocket, tripped out of the office, whistling briskly.

Phil's mother was a widow and lived at a small town a few miles from the big city. Phil had been a messenger in the telegraph office there and had handed over the wages to his mother every month. He had three sisters—all very young and very modest and very good. Like the children of many other widows, Phil's sisters, though always neat and tidy, were never over-dressed. A new garment rarely entered the Pepper family, and when one did it was with flattering prospects of a long and useful career. First, Clara, who was the eldest, then Mary, who was next, and lastly little Sarah, the baby, succeeded to a portion, if not all, of what was originally a dress skirt, or a wrapper, or a something-or-other else for Phil's mother. Of course Little Sarah got the worst of it at every evolution, for, although the material usually stubbornly refused to wear out at all, it had lost considerable of the lustre of youth by the time Mrs. Pepper's careful and saving hands had converted it into dresses for the baby. But that didn't make any difference. They all said Little Sarah looked just too sweet for anything; and how happy they would be if Phil's father, who died of a fever, were only there to see her. Then Little Sarah would feel very proud, and Phil's mother would cry a little and say if Phil's father were there maybe Little Sarah could have a brand-new dress for once. They would all feel sorrowful for a while until Phil would remind them that the Superintendent had promised him the very next opening in the big

office, and that would be soon, he was sure. So Mrs. Pepper would dry her eyes and say that she always knew Phil was a good boy and would make a big man yet. Indeed, the Peppers were a common family; just common enough and poor enough to think a good deal of each other and be very sentimental and very hopeful.

Phil thought of these things as he sped along the crowded streets, and now that the superintendent had kept his promise and Phil had a pocketful of money, he resolved that the first thing he'd buy after a nice warm cloak for his mother should be a pretty dress for little Sarah. Then there was a pair of shoes for sister Mary and a real fur trimmed sack for Clara, and if the money only held out there was no end to the list of good things Phil had made up his mind to buy.

Hold out! Gracious! The Pepper family never in all its life had so much money as was in Phil's pocket at that moment and which, he now and then smilingly gave a squeeze to make sure it was still there and safe. There was enough money in that roll to start a bank, Phil thought, and it was only one month's pay, too; think of that! Mother would not need to work so hard now, sewing her eyes out; not if Phil knew it, and he thought he did.

It was Christmas eve and Phil was going to take his presents home to his mother and sisters to-morrow. People were hurrying up and down the streets and in and out of the brilliantly-lighted stores carrying all sorts of mysterious bundles and packages, and trying hard to look as though they were not Christmas presents and making a complete failure of it. Everybody was smiling at everybody else; the store-keepers especially, who were driving an immense trade and would be rich men in the morning, Phil thought. Crusty old fellows with fur-lined overcoats and tall, shiny hats, bachelors, probably, made way on the sidewalk for fat old ladies and noisy, scrambling, happy children with astonishing gallantry, and even halted now and then, when no one was looking, to stare in at the most fashionable store windows and stroke their chins.

"Whoop!" "It's beginning to snow!" "Let her go Gallagher!" Small boys, carrying sleds went mad with delight, and scampered off, dragging their trophies behind them without the slightest regard for legs.

"Look out there! Ha! Ha! An old lady down? Well, she's laughing; not much hurt, I guess; and she's giving the youngster some money, too! Lucky thing for the kid it's Christmas eve!"

Well, I rather think it was; and a lucky thing, and a happy thing for all kids, young, middle-aged and old, if it was Christmas eve that made everybody so good-natured!

Phil knew where to get the cloak and the sack and the shoes and the pretty dress for Little Sarah. He had seen them all in a big show-window that very afternoon, and had then and there made up his mind to buy them. To this place, with a very light heart, Phil rapidly made his way, only stopping once at the market place to look at the big prize turkey hanging up by the legs above a forest of crisp, new celery, and to surprise himself by asking the marketman what was the price? Of course, he didn't intend to buy it (though he had money enough, mind you!), but thought it would be something to tell the children. He drew up at the store-window, all out of breath from running, and halted a moment to take a last look at the exhibition, thinking how he could describe the dazzling scene to his wondering sisters and tell them just how their presents looked in all the glory of a show-window, and how surprised the store-keeper was when Phil walked in as big as life and said, "I want that cloak."

He turned and took a step forward to open the door and enter. As he did so his eyes met those of one of his fellow-operators—a red-headed, red-eyed and red-nosed young man who worked the instrument at a table adjoining his own at the big office, and who was said to be the very fastest operator in the city. He was leaning in the door of a neighbor-

ing hall-way and chewing tobacco vigorously. Phil tried to avoid him, but it was too late. The red-nosed operator had been watching him for several minutes.

"Hello, Mr. Fresh," said he, "going to buy 'mamma' a Christmas present?"

Phil blushed. This was the man who had made most sport of his white head and country manners, and he not only disliked but feared him.

"N-no, sir; I thought I saw a friend in there," he stammered; "but, it's no matter."

"Ha! ha!" laughed the fast operator. "I'm looking for a couple of friends myself. You may join us, youngster, if you want to."

"Thank you, sir," said Phil, "but——"

"'Mother wouldn't like it,' eh?"

Phil blushed again. "No, I think she wouldn't mind it much," said he, tugging at his coat collar and keeping his eyes on the pavement, "Not if I didn't drink."

"Well, I guess you don't have to drink, chump; nobody's going to force you; but there's no use your being so all-fired stuck on yourself on that account. Here they are now! Come along and be sociable."

As he spoke the fast operator linked arms with one of a pair of flashily-dressed young men who came swinging down the street at that moment, and drawing Phil with him, rapidly mumbled the form of introduction, as, arm-in-arm all four walked away.

"Mr. Jones and Mr. Smith," continued Phil's friend, who smelled badly of whiskey and did not walk over-steadily, "are nice boys, Pepper, and we must do 'the act' for 'em to-night. We'll drop in and see Jerry."

The fast operator loosed his arm and opened the door of a place where the sign "Restaurant," in white letters, was conspicuous. Phil knew it was a saloon, but he followed, determined to excuse himself shortly and return to the store and make his purchases. It was only seven o'clock, and, of course, the store would be open several hours yet, it being Christmas eve.

[Concluded in next issue.]

A HEROINE OF THE STRIKE.

BY E. H. SPRONG.

"Cincinnati," yelled the rear brakeman of a panhandle freight train as the long line of box cars stopped on a side track between Pendleton and Cincinnati, one cold morning in the fall of '83. He was yelling at two frost bitten telegraphers, who were lying in the corner of a cattle car, wrapped in a rubber overcoat, locked in each other's arms, and with locked feet in a barrel, which was the only clean thing in the car. The trip had been a hard one and when the brakeman "called the station" the two tramps simply smiled at his humor, let themselves out of the car as gracefully as a yoke of oxen would have done under similar circumstances and walked up Eastern avenue towards the heart of the city.

"Billy, this is pretty tough luck," said the elder of the two as they trudged along. "Right over there," he continued as they stopped opposite a homelike looking residence which lay far back from the street on a high embankment, surrounded by trees and flower gardens, "I was entertained at a lawn fete the night before the strike was declared off, and there sleeps in that house one of the purest girls God ever gave life to. You don't know Macie? Well, perhaps you'll meet her someday; but I hope that you don't prove to be the one who shall win her for life, because you are crazy like myself, and she's too good for either of us."

"Well, tell us about the fete," said Billy as he limped along, shivering at every breath.

With a farewell look at the place so dear to his heart the possessor of the rubber coat said: "It is nearly three

months since we went out on a strike. Cincinnati was full of loyal men, but, of course, there had to be one or two deserters at the last moment, who stayed in. We called them 'scabs' then, but now the sore has healed and as the covering of a wound falls into the refuse of the dissecting room, so does the worth of a deserter fall in the estimation of men. One of that kind met me in a saloon a few days before the strike ended and attacked me with a knife. I defended myself and the ensuing fight resulted in the defeat of the other fellow. A warrant was issued for my arrest, and for two days I was tracked throughout southern Ohio and northern Kentucky. I had escaped from the officers who tried to corral me in Covington, and was walking along the Ohio towards Dayton when I learned that a lawn fete was to be given at Macie's that night. The festivities were at high pitch when I arrived, and as I sat in a hammock surrounded by the loyal girls and fellows, I learned that officers were in the neighborhood and I would surely be arrested. Just then I saw a detective with four assistants coming up the lawn to take me. With a bound I cleared a flower bed and ran to the house. Macie was right behind me and dared the officers to enter without a search warrant. I was given the "spare bedroom" and Macie's parents were prepared for surprise should it come that night. Luckily, however, I was not disturbed and the next day I ran the gauntlet and left the town on a Panhandle passenger train which stopped for me by the arrangement of my benefactress near a strip of woods just north of Pendleton, and succeeded in reaching my home in the Alleghanies. There I rested until my case was dismissed, and in consequence of having the prince of boycotts, the blacklist, enforced against me—here I am to-night."

The tramps separated and several years afterwards met in New York. The appearance of both gave evidence of prosperity. They did not care to talk of the night they rode in a cattle car from Columbus to Cincinnati; when nature had covered hill and dale—and themselves also—with a spotless blanket of frost, and when the wind howled like a cyclone through the slats of the car over their barrel-protected forms, but Billy's curiosity to know what had become of Macie brought up the subject and the erstwhile possessor of the rubber coat said: "After I left you I called on her and was cordially received. One or two of my old friends failed to keep to their agreements and she knew it. 'Go South for the winter and take care of yourself' said she, handing me the price of a ticket to New Orleans. She knew that Ben Higdon (may his soul rest in peace) would give me work if I went there, and voluntarily loaned me the money. I did as she advised and haven't seen her since. But she's married to a southern gentleman and now lives in Thomasville, Georgia. There's not many like her and if the distinction be due to anyone, she won hers as "A Heroine of the strike."

SUNDAY SCHOOL BY TELEGRAPH.—The following dispatch is dated Chattanooga, Tenn.: A novel Sunday-school has been organized by the telegraph operators of the Nashville, Chattanooga and St. Louis Railroad. At two o'clock every Sunday morning the school is called to order by the Superintendent's Operator Bramblet, who telegraphs his order from Wartace. After prayer and the reading of a chapter from the Bible, all of which is done over the wire, questions are asked the class by Mr. Bramblet, and the first man to answer captures the circuit.

The Long Distance Telephone Company have just completed a line to Fall River, Mass., and are about to open for business.

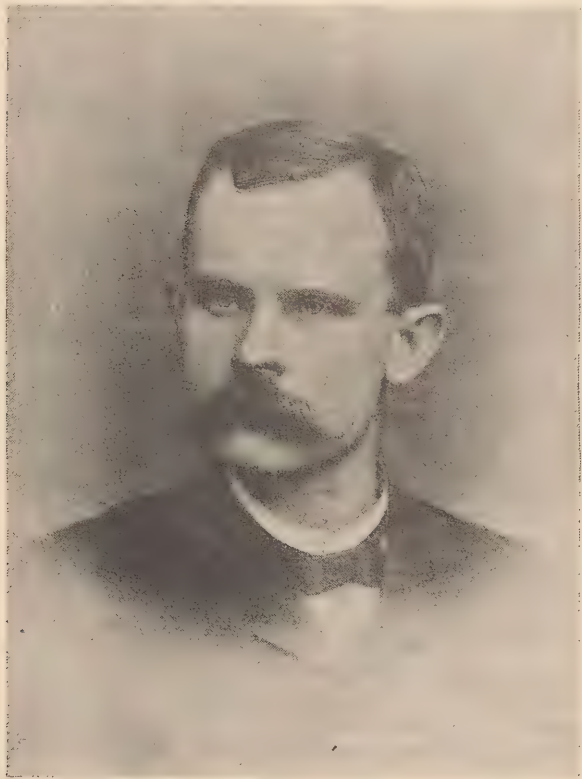
The Postal have finished their new four line loop between Fall River and New Bedford, Mass., and it is working both successfully and profitably.

The London Chamber of Commerce strongly recommends the establishment of Pacific cables.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

A. D. THURSTON.

Ambrose D. Thurston, grand chief telegrapher of the order of railway telegraphers, was born July 10th, 1852, in Otsego county, New York, and received a good common school



A. D. THURSTON, GRAND CHIEF TELEGRAPHER, ORDER OF RAILWAY TELEGRAPHERS.



S. O. FOX, GRAND SECRETARY AND TREASURER, ORDER OF RAILWAY TELEGRAPHERS.

education. His mother dying while he was a child, his early training and care devolved upon his grandparents, until the age of about twelve years, when he assumed the responsibility of his own "bringin' up," and the thousands of operators in this country with whom his name is familiar can attest as to how well he performed the task. He went to Iowa in 1869, and the following year learned telegraphy at Raymond, Iowa. He remained in the employ of the Illinois Central about five years, during which time he devoted all his spare moments to the study of law, and finally removed to Waterloo, Iowa, where he took up a regular course of study and was admitted to the bar in April, 1876. It soon became apparent that his health would not permit of his pursuing law as a profession so he left his practice and again returned to his first love, telegraphing. During the following six years he worked for the C. & I., C. B. & Q., and B. C. R. N. railways, a greater portion of the time. While in the service he ranked as a first class operator, and filled many responsible positions.

In 1883, Mr. Thurston removed to La Porte City, Iowa, where he accepted the position as day operator for the B. C. R. & N. His mind had for some time been busy with a publication and an organization in the interest of the railway operators, and it was here he set about to perfect his schemes. He sought the advice and co-operation of a young newspaper man of the town, Mr. S. A. Wagoner, and then established a little 3-column paper, which he christened the *Railroad Telegrapher*. The paper met with such liberal patronage and universal appreciation that it has grown to be the *Weekly Telegrapher*, which is said to be read by more than 50,000 operators. He soon commenced advocating organization and to day he can look upon a grand order, of 12,000 men, of which he is the chief executive officer. In the spring of 1886 he was elected mayor of La Porte City, a position which he filled with credit to himself and satisfaction to his constituents. His career since then is well known to all who know the history of the O. R. T. We believe his record has been clear, wise, and honorable.

On the first day of May, 1884, he was married to Miss Mary Reardon, and is the happy father of three bright little boys, the second of whom bears the initials, "O. R. T." in honor of the organization which the father had labored so hard to establish, and in which he to-day takes no small amount of pride.

S. O. FOX.

Samuel O. Fox, grand secretary and treasurer, was born in Rock county, Wisconsin, Nov. 30, 1850, and received only a common school education with the exception of a course in the Dubuque business college when about twenty years of age. He, like many other operators of the present day, lost his father when but a boy, and much of his success and knowledge of life has been gained by his own industrious efforts.

He learned telegraphy on the C. M. & St. P. R'y, at Lawler, Iowa, in 1873, and after working at several places, as common to all young operators, including Vinton and Waterloo, on the B. C. R. & N., he secured the agency at La Porte City, Iowa. In this position he gave the best satisfaction to the company, as evidenced by his ten years of continuous service in that capacity. It was while serving in this position that he consented to act as recording secretary, when the *Railroad Telegrapher* first commenced in 1884, advocating an organization for the railroad operators, and soliciting names to a document pledging them to join such an organization. After a sufficient number had been obtained, and the first convention was held at Cedar Rapids, he was very naturally elected grand secretary and treasurer, although not being able to attend on account of not being provided with relief from his duties as agent. Since that time his record is better known and all acknowledge his superior abilities as a grand secretary. In June, 1878, he was married to Miss L. M. Cummins, an accomplished young lady of La Porte City, and three good-looking little children, one girl and two boys, gladden their home. They are now residents of Vinton, sur-

rounded by a reasonable degree of comfort and many friends:

From the stand-point of a commercial man the opinion prevails that Messrs Thurston and Fox have earned their success and achievements by the thorough manner in which they have established their Order. Their work will continue to reflect creditably upon them, when all of us have passed to the unknown. For years it has been our lot to witness the grand work accomplished by these gentleman, and we can say with all the emphasis at our command that A. D. Thurston and S. O. Fox have proven themselves to be the greatest friends to the railroad operator, since the advent of the telegraph.

WESTERN UNION NOTES.—A desire on the part of the shining lights of the night force to enjoy more frequently the good things of life, has led them to organize with a goodly though select number of members, the Electro-Gastronomic Club. No initiation fee is charged, each member being assessed alike to defray the cost of whatever form of entertainment is agreed upon. Officers have not yet been elected, but will be shortly. Les. Bradley, always one of the most popular men in the office, is even more so on account of the presentation by a friend in the Sunny South of a rabbit's foot a few days ago. All those who have had the good fortune to be "touched up" are in high feather, and as a consequence, stock in the "lucky seven" is way above par. Mr. F. L. Cornish and W. J. Calvert have resigned. They go South. The waiting list still contains the names of 58 operators. Miss Lillie Shannon was presented with a handsome bouquet for graceful dancing at the 22d Regiment reception, on January 21st. New curtains have been hung at the windows in the operating rooms. John Healy, formerly of the Cleveland quad, is lying seriously ill at the home of a relative, in this city. He was the recipient of a handsome present a few days ago from his many friends in the office, which he prized most highly. This message passed through the office recently: "Whiskey, poker, beer and wine, make one's head feel very fine; makes a man begin to think what a fool he is to drink." It was signed, "A man who never gets a jag." Richard Powers and Mr. Nelson have returned from sick leave. Transfers: A. F. Randolph, C. N. D., to Gold and Stock, 16 Broad street; Mr. Wasson, night, to day force, Mr. Backus relieving; Miss Brown, to 255 Church street; Miss Johnson, to 9 New street, as substitute for Miss Mayer, who is on a month's vacation; Wm. Smith, all night, to Wheatstone dep't, night force; Frank Freyer, to all-night force, and T. J. Collins, Denver, Col., to the split trick. Mr. F. Jessen has been made very happy by the arrival at his house of a twelve-pound son. Miss Nellie F. Swords handles considerable business and is in the Eastern Division. Harry Hues has been given a Sunday night trick. Wm. Foley has returned from a vacation looking hale and hearty. On January 20, the United Press office requested Manager Sink to send over one of the numerous doctors to the United Press office to attend Mr. E. A. Sprong, who was taken suddenly ill, which he did, and Mr. Sprong was soon able to journey home. Mr. Bryan Grant, of the Commercial News Department, who has long been known as the champion correspondence chess player of this office, after two stubbornly-contested games lowered his colors to John Brant, who won both of them. Mr. Barnum is absent on account of the death of his mother-in-law, who for several months has been a confirmed invalid. The loop-switch, about which so much has been heard, and for which so little work has been done, is now in a fair way of being pushed to completion in short order. Owing to the severe illness of her sister, Miss Nolan has for a few days been absent from her accustomed position in the City Department.

E. A. Sprong of the United Press, has recovered from an attack of inflammation of the bowels, which confined him to his room for several days.

DIED.—Henry V. G. Wilkin, one of the oldest, most widely-known and best liked telegraph operators along the line of the Erie road died in New York city on January 12th, of cancer in the stomach. His home was Goshen, N. Y., where he resided the greater portion of the fifty years of his life, and where he was manager of the office for 25 years. A large number of operators from other points attended the funeral, which occurred on the 15th. Among those present were W. P. Boyd, Division Operator, M. J. Maloney and C. W. Jones, train dispatchers, W. H. Daley, E. S. Brewsters, J. Keegan, T. Doyle, W. Hornbeck, W. P. Mapes and M. L. Bilyou and Wm. Storms of the Sixth avenue elevated, New York.

DIED.—H. M. Scott, manager of the W. U. Telegraph Company, Salt Lake City, Utah, died January 12th, of typhoid pneumonia, aged thirty-five years. Mr. Scott was born in Almonte, Canada, where his parents still reside. At the age of sixteen he learned telegraphing and became not only an expert operator, but well versed in the management and intricacies of the entire system of telegraphing, so that he was given a chief's position in Milwaukee, where he remained six years. Then went to Omaha where he was chief operator fifteen months, and was then given the management of the Salt Lake office about four years ago. He leaves a widow and three little girls to mourn his loss.

DIED.—Thomas P. McKeon died at Pocatello, Idaho, December 15th. Mr. McKeon was a native of Utica, N. Y.; where he was well-known and respected. He was manager of the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company at that point during the company's existence. After the consolidation he accepted a position with the Union Pacific Railroad, and has been a resident of the West ever since. After but twenty-four years of the trials and pleasures of this life, his spirit went out into the beyond, and the tired body sank into a peaceful sleep, not to be disturbed until the resurrection morn.

DIED.—Jacob H. Kilmore, for several years resident lineman for the Western Union, Williamsport, Pa., met with an accident last August which ultimately caused his death, which occurred January 24, at Williamsport. A rupture of the abdomen was produced by lifting a heavy coil of wire, and for the following six months he was not able to do any work. Deceased leaves a daughter 9 years old.

KILLED.—Garrett Reed, a lineman employed by the Western Union Company, was instantly killed on the corner of Gansevoort and West streets, New York, January 22d, by the breaking of a rotten cross arm upon which he was sitting. He was about thirty-five years of age and lived in Jersey City, where he leaves a widow and children.

KILLED.—Charles Heater, a Western Union lineman of New York City, fell with a fifty foot pole on January 19th, and was instantly killed. Heater was working at the extreme top when it snapped at the base. The pole was worm-eaten and looked like touch wood.

DIED.—L. T. Berghoff died at Cleveland, O., of consumption, January 20th, after an illness of three months. He was an exemplary young man, and had been in the C. N. D. section of the W. U. for ten years.

DIED.—James B. Jamison, the former manager of the Liberty street branch of the Postal, Pittsburgh, Pa., died of consumption, December 31st. He had been sick for several years.

DIED.—H. E. Conley died at Nashville, Tenn., a few days ago.

BORN.—At St. Louis, Mo., January 2nd, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Wright; second edition.

SERIAL BUILDING LOAN AND SAVINGS INSTITUTION OF NEW YORK.

Statement showing the condition of the above-named Institution on the first day of January, 1889 :

ASSETS.	
Cash in Treasury	\$ 7,007 24
Bonds and Mortgages.....	109,825 00
Unpaid Dues, &c.....	769 10
Total assets.....	\$117,601 34
LIABILITIES.	
Reserved on Bond and Mortgage.....	\$ 6,200 00
Advanced Dues.....	52 00
Bills Payable.....	3,650 00
Capital Stock 3,284 Shares.....	107,699 34
Total Liabilities.....	\$117,601 34

Witness our hands this 15th day of January, 1889.

JAMES MERRIHEW, President.
WILLIAM B. MARSH, Secretary.

STATE OF NEW YORK, }
City and County of New York, } ss.

James Merrihew and William B. Marsh, being duly sworn, severally depose and say that James Merrihew is President and William B. Marsh is Secretary of the above-named "Serial Building Loan and Savings Institution," and that the foregoing statement is true to the best of their knowledge, information and belief.

(Signed) JAMES MERRIHEW,
WILLIAM B. MARSH.

Sworn to before me, this 15th }
day of January, 1889. }

J. B. SABINE,
Notary Public,
Kings Co.

Cert. filed N. Y. Co.

BUILDING ASSOCIATION—ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—The election of officers of this association for the ensuing year occurred on January 15, when the following were chosen : President, James Merrihew ; Vice-President, E. F. Howell ; Treasurer, A. R. Brewer ; Secretary, W. B. Marsh ; Attorneys, J. B. Sabine and A. A. Rich ; Directors, D. B. Mitchell, C. P. Bruch, M. J. O'Leary, D. C. Sullivan, W. J. Morrison, E. F. Cummings, W. Holmes, J. Brant, D. W. McAneeny, J. J. Barry and W. B. Waycott. The business of the association, as per report published above, shows very clearly the excellent work accomplished since its establishment in July, 1885. Considerable interest is manifested by all members in its welfare and prosperity, while the earnings of the institution will certainly yield a good profit to both investors and borrowers.

BROOKLYN ELEVATED NOTES.—Agent Nilson has transferred from DeKalb avenue, nights, to Broadway and Driggs street, nights ; Agent Pitcher, from Stuyvesant avenue, to Driggs street, days ; Agent Gibson, Driggs street, to Stuyvesant avenue, days ; Agent Morrison, Greene avenue, to DeKalb avenue, nights ; Agent McGannon, Franklin avenue, to Stuyvesant avenue, nights ; Agent Howell, Driggs street, to Sumner avenue, nights. There has been several new arrivals, among them are S. S. Dutot and C. Ahearn, from the Third avenue Elevated. Agent Van Benschoten has left the service. Agent Stevens is on the sick list. Mr. J. A. Regan, Station Inspector, was presented with a diamond stud, and that good all around man, John Maher, was also presented with a gift from the telegraph operators on this road. There has been a new office opened at Vanderbilt avenue.

HELENA, MONTANA.—The Northern Pacific force at this point consists of Mr. John Savoy, manager ; Mr. C. A. Murray, first half night chief, and Mr. H. Brooks Nixon, last half night chief ; B. A. Hummel, James Sheridan, Frank Schanz, on days ; Frank W. Beall and John Slocum, on nights. In the yard office, Mr. Denver P. Dayton holds the fort days, and C. L. Knight, nights. Since we have now moved into our new office an addition of three dispatchers has been made. Mr. C. Harvey, Mr. Clark and Mr. Wallace. Mr. J. Devine is lineman, and "The little Victor" does the delivering. Mr. B. A. Hummel left us on December 13th, going to Milwaukee, and there on December 24th, at 7 P. M. was united in marriage to Miss Mabel C. Hamilton, also an operator with the Western Union. Barney tells us his return trip was a very pleasant one, and on his arrival here with his young wife was given a grand reception and dance by Mrs. Lewis. We all wish the new couple joy and happiness.

NEW ORLEANS NOTES.—Mr. Jesse Jefferson lost his father a few days ago. He has the sympathy of his friends. T. F. Kehoe, from New York, P. D. Wade, Jacksonville, and Mr. Gill, Atlanta, are new arrivals. The force is notified that night operators who are kept after hours will be given a night off. Mr. Al. Cain, assistant night chief, has gone to Kokomo, Ind., on account of bad health.

DANVILLE, VA., NOTES.—Mr. T. R. Huffnies is manager, with J. S. Jones and O. H. Mann, days, and V. G. Hudgins and W. A. Ennis, nights. Harry Pearce, days, and John Geddy, nights, are at the depot.

On Monday, 6th inst., the Western Union Telegraph Company ran into the office of the Florida Railway and Navigation Company, Point City—what is known as the cable line, which opens this office directly with the ocean cable lines. The cable line passes from Plant City to Bartow, thence to Key West. All day Wednesday, the 9th inst., Mr. Willie, the operator, at Plant City, was receiving cable despatches from Europe.

The employes of the Mutual Union Telegraph Company, Boston, presented Mr. James H. Burke, the chief operator at the main office on Milk street, with a handsome gold chain and charm. Mr. Fred. Hutchinson make a brief presentation address, and highly complimented Mr. Burke on his ability, and the efficiency with which he discharged the duties of his office, and spoke of the esteem and honor in which he was held by those under his supervision. Mr. Burke responded briefly, and in a few appropriate words thanked the donors for their gift.

TELEGRAPHY IN SPIRIT LAND.—Prominent spiritualists have, in these days a great deal to say regarding new methods of communicating with departed spirits. Rapping was found too slow, and slate-writing, the most popular method with mediums, has grown tame. The messages are now sent by spiritual telegraphy, through the hand of the medium, and are delivered from a telegraphic "sounder." This form of communication was hatched at Cleveland, O. The "sounder" is an ordinary one, such as is used by soulless telegraph corporations. The medium's hand is held over it, and as the spirits move the fingers they strike the key. The tedious old rapping alphabet will be dispensed with, and the Morse alphabet substituted. The inventors of this new species of fraud were thoroughly exposed during a seance in New York City, some time ago, by Mr. P. J. Tierney and another well-known operator of the Cable department, who concealed their identity until they had fathomed the fraud. The mediums claim departing telegraphers have taught the Morse code to the spirits.

GALVESTON, TEX.—Arrivals : J. M. Morrow, Houston, Tex. Departures : D. A. Easton, B. M. Brooks. Messrs. J. W. Brooks and C. G. Gray are working the cable wire, days, and F. A. Ferris, nights. The O. R. T. is flourishing in this city.

A COMEDY OF ERRORS.

Three prominent and respected Western Union operators of Memphis, Tenn., named J. M. Senn, Albert Klein and J. F. Ellis, went for a stroll last Sunday afternoon. They rambled up Front street to Cochran's saw-mill, and were "guying" each other in a friendly way when the colored watchman of the mill noticed them. They were suspicious characters in his eyes, and he took a careful mental inventory of them. Presently one of the party suggested that they walk up the Chesapeake Railroad to Benjestown. The proposition was looked on with favor by one of his companions, but the other, Mr. Ellis, excused himself. He said he would go back to town and look for a softer Sunday snap than counting cross-ties. He came back to town and the others struck out up the railroad. As soon as they were gone, the watchman telephoned to the station-house that three men whom he believed to be safe-blowers had been hanging around the mill and two of them had gone to Benjestown. He also told Policeman Hurt and Mr. Monroe Clink of his suspicions. Hurt and Clink went in pursuit of the alleged cracksmen, and a posse was organized at the station-house for the same purpose. The operators arrived at Benjestown in good time, and having picked up appetites on the road, ordered dinner. Before the meal was served in walked Hurt and Clink.

"Young men, we've got you," said the policeman, and regardless of the objections of the suspects, and without waiting for them to get their dinner, he marched them back to town. At the crossing of the Randolph road they met Detective Charles Dionysius Armstrong, who was going out in a wagon to bring back the prisoners. He commented on the guilty demeanor of the two operators and expressed his unalterable opinion in seven languages that they would be sent to the penitentiary for thirty-seven years just on their looks. The prisoners protested that they never attempted to blow open a safe and never broke into anything except a telegraph circuit, which was common, customary and justifiable in their line of business, and by the time they reached the station-house their captors were inclined to believe them. An investigation was made and resulted in the release of the lightning experts from durance, whereupon Detective Armstrong said by the way they looked out of their eyes that they were all right.

Shortly after the release of the spurious safe-blowers, but genuine circuit-breakers, Captain Hackett and Sergt. Horan arrived from Benjestown, they having gone on a wild goose chase also.

A committee of experts has been appointed to find out who got the worst of this comedy of errors—the police, the operators, or the Benjestown people who got nothing for the dinner that was cooked but not eaten. Messrs. Senn and Klein will, no doubt, avoid passing saw-mills in the future, at least on empty stomachs. Suits, civil and criminal, have been brought against the policeman who brought them back to Memphis under protest and a Winchester.

AN AWFUL NIGHT.

BY PATRICK JAMES TIERNEY.

Wherever the telegraph is known, there Court Cunningham's fame has extended. No more brilliant telegrapher ever figured among the craft; no braver man ever trod the earth. These attributes, together with his whole-souled geniality, have tended to make him prominent among his fellows. Many stories are told about him whenever the boys congregate, but they are all more or less exaggerated and for that reason should be taken with a grain of salt. Here is one, however, that he tells himself wherein it is clearly shown what fearful jeopardy his life was in on one particularly awful night. Away back in the early days of overland

telegraphy, Court hied himself to the far West, to earn a living and the glowing fame that still surrounds him. He had not been there long before the reports of his bravery reached the sheriff of the county, who, thereupon sought Court and informed him of a certain plan he had laid to rid the neighborhood of a desperate band of horse thieves, whose depredations had been a source of annoyance for many months. The sheriff's posse was to be divided into two parties, the sheriff would go out on one road, and Court, at the head of the second posse, was to take the other road. Whichever force met the thieves first was to give them battle and orders were issued to take no prisoners and give no quarter. Bravely the two parties left town and after scouring the neighborhood without seeing the foe, Court and his party returned to learn that the sheriff and his party were killed. Not a man escaped. Court never thinks of that awful night without heaving a sigh that seems to come from the soul of his foot and shaking his head, he exclaims: That was the narrowest escape I ever had. Had I gone out on the sheriff's road, it would have been me that the thieves would have killed.

"COPYING" REPORT IN A RAILROAD OFFICE.

BY C. W. TOLEDO, O.

Have you ever experienced the change from the silent monotone of the spacious editorial rooms, to the dingy four by six telegraph office, at the depot, in which to labor, on a fast press circuit, for seven or eight hours? You haven't! well you should tackle it once, more than once if you can stand it. The loop which connected the News office with the main circuit of the United Press, was out of working order the other day, so I was obliged to copy report in the depot telegraph office. As is well known in telegraphic circles, the Press wire is about one of the most important in the telegraphic business, and is expected to carry, rain or shine. Then, again, if you do more than your share of "breaking" you are obliged to suffer more or less abuse from the sender, and perhaps be required to write an explanation to the chief Mogul of the association, which is exceedingly unpleasant business.

Well, to return to my story, I went down to the depot office, took off my coat, and sat down to my instrument, which was located on a table in the little office, between the two waiting rooms. I had just begun work when a lady stuck her head through the open window, and in a voice which almost entirely drowned the sound of my instrument, inquired: "How long afore that Klumpus' train ge'ows out." I opened my key, tried to look pleasant, and told her I did not know. She gave me a sort of I-feel-sorry-for you look and went away. I then resumed work again, and the following is about the way it continued until "30" when, after worrying me as much as they could "the disturbing elements" seemed to fade away into oblivion: First came a big burly negro: "Say young fella' wat time does dat dar Peetsbug train 'rive." Female voice from opposite window "Gimmie ticket to Mossback Bridge, quick."

Employee rushing into office, grasps telephone. Ding, Ding, Hello, Central! say! gimmie der hurry-up wagon quick! I mean the patrol horse! no, no, the—oh pshaw (Voice from outside, "let her go Casey, de coppers'er gottim") He hangs up the 'phone, leans over my shoulder, and in a hoarse, stentorinous voice, which seemed to shake the building, endeavors to describe to me the sensational feature of a "rattlin' scrap" over in Tims place.

This is not the end, however. A passenger train arrives, and the kind hearted engineer allows his loving companion—this enormous steel charger—to blow off its superfluous steam within fifteen feet of my desk; and finally, as the train moves out, a diminutive little woman, with blood in her eye, a green umbrella under one arm, and several par-

cels under the other, who has missed the train, rushes frantically up to the window—I feel terribly miserable as her flashing eyes meet mine—but I hear my little instrument click out the ever welcome “30” for regulars and I hurriedly made my exit over the counter.

New York Telegraph Operators in Drama and Dance. Turn Hall, 66 and 68 East 4th street, New York City, on Tuesday evening, Feb. 19th. An Attractive Programme, including the laughable farce, “Dots and Dashes,” or “The Professor.” “A Real Telegraph School.” Tickets fifty cents, admitting gentleman and ladies. A limited number of reserved seats on sale at all telegraph offices and by members of the profession.

D. W. McAneeny, Chairman Comm. Arrangements; J. C. Van Cura, Secretary, 195 Broadway, New York.

ELECTRICAL EXPERIMENTERS, INVENTORS AND AMATEURS.

FOR SALE.—Large lot of new and second-hand electrical apparatus, relays, sounders, keys, electro magnets, magnet wire, binding posts, etc.; also all materials for making at home, small motors, induction coils, galvanometers, thermopiles, batteries, etc., at low cost. No order too small to receive prompt attention. Write for anything wanted.

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PUCK'S GIRDLE—This book has been tied up in the New York Custom House for two months. We are now prepared, however, to fill all orders promptly. Among the interesting matter are contributions “a Memory,” by Col. Chas. E. Taylor; Telegraphy in Canada, by Chas. Hosmer, Esq., Montreal; Sketches of Cable life, by E. Raymond Barker, Esq., Maderia; Chicago Telegraphs, by W. J. Lloyd, Chicago; Western Telegraphers, by J. S. Pryor, Esq., N. Y.; Atlantic Telegraphs, by Condenser, Ballinskelligs; Half-Hours with the Old-Timers, by C. C. Hine, Esq., New York; Nellie Valentine, by Miss F. M. Saul, Belfast; Our hero, by Old Timer; From London to Durban, by A. K. N. Illustrated. American agents, J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey street, N. Y.

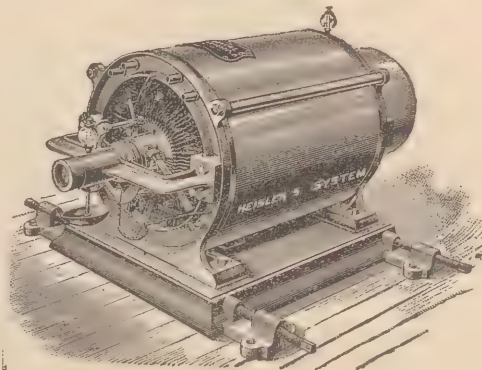
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CONTRIBUTIONS FOR JOHN ROE.—Mr. John Roe, a well known operator, who was reported in the last issue of this journal as being ill, helpless and destitute in Albany, N. Y., is still in pressing need of assistance, and those charitably inclined to assist this worthy case, can do so, and contributions, however small, will be gratefully received.

Mr. Anthony Bucek, of Boston, sends us \$1.00 and says: “I am very sorry to hear of John Roe’s unfortunate condition. A dollar wont go a great way, but it will help him a little.”

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Mr. H. C. Stough formerly of New York, is now in Colorado Springs, Col.

Mr. T. Beans, of Philadelphia, is a new arrival at the Commercial Telegram Office, and is well liked.

J. Simmons of The United Press, Cleveland, O., has resigned; S. P. Ayers of Lancaster, Pa., fills the vacancy, and F. S. Stewart of York, Pa., relieves the latter. The Lancaster *Intelligencer* gave Mr. Ayres a flattering notice, both for ability and gentlemanly deportment.

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CHICAGO—W. U. NOTES.—Chief Operator Lloyd was last week appointed to the position of assistant superintendent of the first district *vice* J. Uhrig, resigned. His headquarters will be Chicago. It is needless to say the force sincerely regretted Mr. Lloyd's departure from their midst, and are pleased with the appointment of Mr. W. R. Holligan as chief operator. Mr. Holligan has been in the service for 15 years, and has been promoted on merits alone from operator to that which he now holds. It will be remembered that he succeeded Mr. Lloyd as night chief operator, in 1885, from which position he was appointed wire chief of the office, and from thence to manager of the Board of Trade. His administration has always been characterized by fairness and impartiality. The mantle of "Asst. Supt." falls gracefully upon Mr. Lloyd, and all wish him success. Mr. D. S. Anderson goes on 'Change as manager, vacated by Mr. Holligan. The position held by Mr. Anderson, assistant chief operator, has been done away with, his duties being turned over to Messrs. Whitcomb and John Stevely. Mr. Gilbert has been placed on the floor as assistant to Mr. Stevely. Miss B. L. White will, as heretofore, have charge of the reliefs, etc., on the day force. Owing to the inauguration of the Wheatstone system, on the night force, and an extreme dullness in business, quite a number of men have been discharged, some being provided with other positions. Mr. Peach goes to Springfield; Mr. Goodfellow to the Stock Yards. Among the others let out are Messrs. E. J. Anderson, Carter, Maloney, Dougherty, Moxan, Cummings, Price, Millican and Baker. It is said more are to follow shortly. The "mill" is run to San Francisco direct, carrying the entire overland business, and to New York until midnight. This releases about 15 men from the Morse wires. Six ladies are on the regular Wheatstone night force, soon to be joined by a number of first-class Morse operators who have been instructed to learn to "punch," among whom are Messrs. J. and L. Smith, F. Courtright, Godman, Davenport, Orr, Stratton, Al. Babb, and a few others. This is a move in the right direction. C. F. Fox, who succeeded Mr. Dorval as chief of the overland, some time ago, has charge of the "mill" at night, assisted by J. P. Holligan. C. W. Jones, for years superintendent of the City lines and the champion of Valentine's Janesville College, from which he filled his vacancies, getting \$5 a head therefor, was removed in December. Mr. A. C. Murphy, who had been traffic chief in the City line department, succeeded Jones, A. C. Clift taking Mr. Murphy's place. It is said that Jones was removed on account of his connection with Janesville and through the employment of incompetent boys and girls, running the service into the ground. It is much improved under Mr. Murphy's management. "Bx," a large office in the sugar district, has been placed in charge of Mr. M. McCulloch, late of the B. & O., and recently in charge of a division in "Ch.," with Mr. D. O'Brien as chief operator. Both gentlemen are well liked, and the boys congratulate "Denny" on his promotion. We understand ex-supt. Jones, through poor service and students, allowed the receipts of "Bx" to fall off one-half. There are a number of items of news to be chronicled for the past two months, which have not appeared in the AGE. Mr. John D. Walker was married to Miss Maggie Porter, one of the lady operators. Mr. Chas. Crowell, loop-chief, went to Deming for his health, and has improved greatly. The Misses Summerl, Moses Springer, Messrs. Nelson, Raidy, Foad, Rilling, Wangerein, Bird, Ryan and Butterfield, were added to the force in November. Miss Nellie Tobias has gone to St. Louis. Mrs. Chas. Crowell and Miss Emma Smith are recent additions to the force. Further personals later.

Elegant pictures of any of the telegraph people which have appeared in this paper will be furnished on heavy paper for ten cents each.

A FEW BREVITIES.

"DE."

Feathers in ladies' hats will be very fashionable soon. The race department will furnish the *tips*.

Never jump at a conclusion. Just because you see a night man going up to the ninth floor at noon, is no reason why you should think he is working extra in The Associated Press. The lunch room is on the same floor. See?

"Doctor, will you answer Pittsburgh please?" said one of the chiefs, and twelve men grabbed at the key.

You need never be short of crepe if you want to attend a funeral. Take one of the towels from the wash room.

By the way, the D. L. Club has been organized and will soon hold regular semi-monthly meetings. Three of the members were seen in Park Row, a few nights ago, and Mr. —, the vocalist of the club, entertained them with a song like this:

"Of all the drinks that are known to me,
From wine to Indian pale,
There's nothing that I hold to be,
Like a glass of good mixed ale.
Its amber hue and crown of froth,
Looks hearty-like and hale;
There's nothing, even hot clam broth,
Like a glass of good mixed ale"

Motto for the Magnetic Club: "Never take the horse-shoe from the door."

There are two very youthful lovers in the main office. The girl can't be more than ten and the boy is perhaps three or four years older. He is an awkward looking boy, but the way he looks at that little girl and the attention he pays to her, shows that he has an affectionate nature. I've watched them for hours at a time as they sat side by side, she reading from a book or paper and he listening eagerly to every word and speaking volumes with his eyes. The little girl has a bright, cheerful face and a happy disposition and as they sit and chat, it is a picture a painter might draw.

There is quite a diversity of literary taste in the office. The other day I sat at a desk and was surrounded by "Robert Elsmere," "Holy Living," "Is Marriage a failure?" and the Morning Journal.

It is a curious fact that Jews, as a rule, are poor senders. Their Morse is realite.

"The Lord tempers the wind for the shorn lamb." The waiting list have been having it nicely tempered for it this Winter. When the list gets on its Sunday clothes it looks as natty as the regular force.

Manager to Applicant.—We are very much crowded now, but we can probably give you a place at \$35 per month.

Applicant—"Oh anything will do. I merely wish to study electricity and its application to medical science."

Blessed is he who sits on a dynamo, for he shall rise again.

The financial market is active with upward tendency: Good prime \$3.00 lunch tickets, \$2.60. Money, 15 days, loans, 5 per cent.

There is a county in Kentucky in which there has not been a birth for thirteen years. Last week an operator moved into the county and the next day the officials advertised for plans for a school house.

Postal construction headquarters have been established at Atlanta, Ga., where preparations are being made to construct lines to Augusta, Ga., and Birmingham, Ala.

THE 195 BROADWAY ALL-NIGHT FORCE,

BY J. CLAYTON WATTS.

What a peculiar, but withal, good natured set of men the all night force is. I have quietly watched them from their entrance at midnight until "Tob." gave me "off," but I'm not going to give "Tob." any "tips" on what I may have seen. I said "tips" Well, you can't give "Tob." any "tips;" he's thoroughly conversant with all the "ways that are crooked and the tricks that are vain" and they are many—from standing behind the pillar under the gallery to a seat on "Avenue B" in the coat room. Mr. Tobin, "Tob." for short, the all night manager, is the very acme of promptness; never absent, never late. He is so prompt that I have never looked up on hearing my partner remark, "here comes Tob," but timed the business 10.55 P. M. If promptness had its reward he would be no longer heard calling out, "All up there Mr. B., I find you are off."

George E. Holbrook, traffic chief.—When George enters the room for a brief period, he pauses near the font and taking a "let me see" glance around the room, and with a contented look, for George always looks contented, takes a drop "from out the barrel." This is pure force of habit. He can't be thirsty, just coming from Harlem. As he passes each one, whether check boy or chief, they all receive a pleasant "gm." We have become so accustomed to this pleasant salutation that were we to miss it, we could not but feel disappointed. What a fine, pleasant disposition George has. I have yet to see him out of humor, or to see the man who kicks when he addresses him: "Mr. —, would you please answer on the West?" Let the roast be what it may, they work cheerfully where another man would be wished in the Arctics.

Paul Sheehan, wire chief. They say a policeman's lot, etc., now what's the matter with a wire chief's lot? it's not a happy one, but Paul never looks unhappy. In fact he is one of the most easy going men of the many occupying similar positions, but he gets there just the same. I have noticed that Paul resembles the weather. If the night is fair, Paul enters the office, walks leisurely down to his post, gets his cues and strolls around the office, salutes his friends and prepares for action. Should the night be a bad one, what a change. All his friends are forgotten, nothing but the board receives attention. As one wire fails, is thrown out and replaced by another, we can hear his silent prayer ascending to the hurricane deck of the board. Oh, Paul, what tales of trouble you have confided to that inanimate pile of brass!

T. W. Taylor, quad. chief. To meet him on the street you would at a casual glance take him for a doctor. He enters the office very quietly, goes at once to his post and commences his duties. He very seldom comes into the centre of the room, and then only when business calls him there, which he transacts and returns again under the gallery, to stand guard over the cable quad. Quiet and unassuming, but if you thaw out, so does he.

Fred McCrum, tall, easy going Fred, saunters into the room and at once takes a look at the clock. He generally arrives at 12.55 and goes over to the genial Bradley, where the two exchange the latest, but I will not accuse Fred. Fred is a blessing to the scooper. The latter has no hesitation now in accepting the last man, for the first Chicago is covered.

Harry Siegfried. Harry comes in very quietly and is at work before you know it. I have noticed that Harry has changed in his demeanor. Some months ago he was quite genial, but now he is moody and troubled. It can't be because he works the first, for I always had an idea he liked to work, but like Mr. McCrum he has brought joy to the last man.

R. C. Edwards. If a stranger were to be a listener to Bob's reminiscences of early telegraphy, he would almost

doubt Bob's veracity, and he could be excused for it. Spend a few hours in Bob's company and you will find "he's as young as he used to be." Watch him telegraphing and he will show you he's as "fly" as any of the young "fellers." In fact, Bob is one of the few "Vets," who is just as good as he ever was. To know him, is to like him. Not only is he always in a pleasant mood, but the "bump of generosity" is more than fully developed. He is always the same whether you meet him after catching them "straight and place" or extolling the merits of his "Capillary Persuader."

John Morison. Now I am in a quandary. It's not how Jack enters, but how he goes out; or does he ever go out? I leave him in the office. When I return the next night I see him still at the desk. I have heard it said that after sixty-three hours of continuous work all Jack's slips had "no lunch" on them, excepting the last one which bore across the corner "no sleep." It was returned with a note stating the company did not charge a man for sleep. Jack answered saying, if it did, he would have to leave the 1 to 8 .trick. Mr. Morison is a hard worker and makes it easy for the scooper.

Edward Hodnett. Figuratively speaking, Eddie is the child of the regiment. It would be hard to find a "boy," for Eddie is a "boy" yet, of such a modest and unassuming manner as he is, fast gaining that point where he will be one of the "Stars." Even now, he is far superior to some who assume greater ability, but it is in keeping with his manner.

Dr. Weyant. There's nothing strikingly peculiar about the Doctor, excepting the professional air with which he leisurely saunters in, salutes his friends and takes a seat on the "ways" and commences to wrestle with whoever happens to answer. "It's like pulling teeth," Doctor, but you do catch a roast occasionally; it's O. K. though; you "fill" the cavity" and "draw" your "gold" with the rest of us.

Louis Kirschbaum. Lou is the heavy weight of the force; in fact, I guess it can be safely said of the entire office; yet, he moves around quickly and gracefully. Lou is a man in stature and years, but in disposition there's a good deal of the "boy" about him, at times being jolly, sociable and very congenial. He is a good worker.

Michael Higgins, Marine operator;—and Mike is a mariner, too. I am told he has a branch pilot's license. I always had an idea that those who go o'er the sea when on land had a swinging, easy going gait, but this is not so with Mike. He is as straight as an arrow and comes in with the gait of a pedestrian, straight to his department, and there he remains until 8 A. M. He sticks so closely to his desk that you would never know he was in the office unless you pass by where he is at work. Like his branch of the service, he seems to be separate from the rest of us.

J. H. Robinson. "Rob" not Jim, but all night "Rob" never late or absent. One of the most reliable men in the service. Rob has a kind of a "Let me see how things are" air about him and makes a thorough tour of inspection through the office, beginning at the "marine log" which he scans with the air of a seafarer, to every desk. If he knows the man, he salutes him, and so on back to the force book, where he sizes up the absentees. There's nothing escapes or delays him.

Michael Sherman. Mike is the quickest moving man on the force. He enters the office, saunters down the aisle, with neither a look right or left, as though pursued by an enemy. He is also strictly methodical in everything he does. At the same time Mike is one of the most sociable and genial men you would wish to meet. He will, if you start a conversation, entertain you as long as you care to listen, and longer.

J. B. Phillips. "Rox." I think is a misnomer. I certainly cannot see why he should have such an adamant name, but he has been "Rox" so long with us it would never do at this

late day to change it. Give Rox his quota of "Century" and one of the St. Louis wires and you won't see him move or hear a word from him until relieved. Sometimes if it is a bad night, you may hear a murmur, not a prayer.

George Hubbard. Another veteran who could tell you tales of the fifties, if he would, but he won't; why, I don't know. He seldom engages in conversation and then only on business matters. He notices no one; on entering the office, takes a seat and awaits orders from Mr. Tobin. When received he goes and attends to them in the same quiet way.

Frank Clark. On entering the office he goes straight to some secluded corner and there remains until Mr. Tobin assigns him. One would at first form the impression, that he was endeavoring to get out of a roast, but that cannot be truthfully said. He is a hard worker when once assigned to a wire. He is quiet in manner and speech and gentlemanly in deportment.

F. Chambers. I have come to the conclusion that this man is a myth. The scooper will say to Chief Holbrook, "George, how many absent?" "Let me see," counting his fingers, "one, Chambers," guess that's all to-night. I see Rox is here." I have yet to see Chambers, of the all night force. He is marked absent, never draws his salary, at least never comes after his vouchers, and altogether is the mythical member of the all night force.

Collectively the all night force, as others see it is prompt, reliable and a credit to the office.

BALTIMORE & OHIO RY. PHILA. DIV.—Commencing at the dispatcher's office, Philadelphia, we find Mr. Geo. Clark chief and Messrs. H. K. Hartman and Weimer, dispatchers with W. S. Reinhold, as copier. In the waiting room of the new depot, 24th and Chestnut streets, we find Mr. D. H. Wilson in a secluded spot under the stairs. Messrs. M. H. Baker, day and A. Parish nights, at East side. At 60th street, F. S. Day, as agent and operator; Wm. H. McAlpin at Collingdale; A. H. Sterling at Holmes; B. F. Coulbourn at Folsom; C. H. Miller at Ridley; C. M. Hill, day and J. M. Reid, nights; Chester H. S. Burroughs at Felton; G. E. M. Beall Village Green; Edward D. Sipler, at Boothwin; J. B. Miller at Carrcroft; J. D. Wheeler at Carpenter; Mr. Ringland at West Junction; J. E. P. Cox at Kiamensi; H. J. Putt at Newark; J. L. B. Miller at Baldwin; E. G. Benjamin, at Sinerly Station, and Messrs. Miller and J. J. Nolan at end of double track, Sinerly; E. B. Rittenhouse at Childs; H. D. Metcalf and Mr. Connelly at Leslie; R. W. Dill at Whitaker; Wm. Shone at Aikin; Edw. Magoswan day and G. A. R. Richardson, nights, end double track Havre-degrace and W. T. Barron at station; W. H. Reasin, Jr., at Aberdeen; Geo. T. White, at Stepney; J. P. Sullivan, at Harford; T. J. Sullivan, at Van Bibber, day, and Mr. J. McDonald, nights; W. Straughn, at Bradshaw; W. M. Proctor, at Cowenton; J. H. Roberts, day, and H. M. Shuler, nights, at Bay View; Hugh Seals, Elevator office; Anthony Parke, west bound freight office; Jno. McIntyre, day, and Horace Price, nights, at Pier, and Lewis Wehage, east bound freight office, Canton; Mr. W. W. Kirby, division chief operator has resigned to accept a more lucrative position elsewhere. We all join in wishing him success. Mr. Chas. P. Adams, formerly chief operator in the central building, Baltimore, has been appointed to succeed him. The night office at Havredegrace has been closed and Mr. McClafferty put on the extra list again.

A message received at the Atlanta, Ga., office at 8 o'clock A. M., was not delivered to its proper address in the city until 1 P. M. It directed a party to leave on the noon train, and was delivered too late to be of value. The sender, Mr. W. H. Godsey, is suing the Western Union Company for \$100, under a new Georgia statute, which makes the company liable for a fine of \$100 for the non-delivery of a message immediately on its arrival. The case is attracting much interest.

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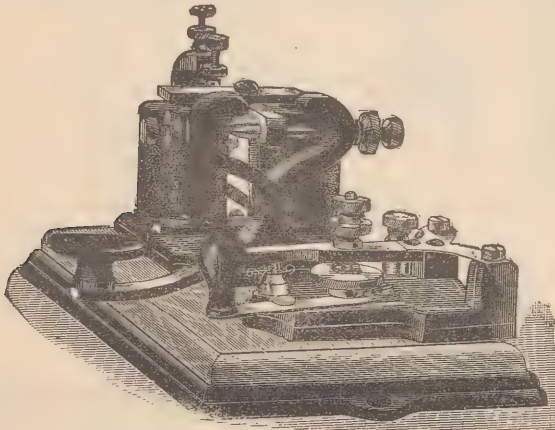
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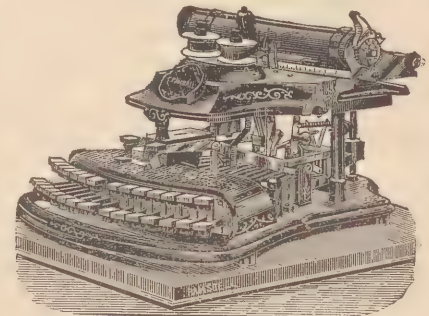
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WILLIAM MAVER, Jr.
MANAGER.

THE WHEATSTONE SYSTEM.—It is pretty generally known in telegraph circles, writes a gentleman who ought to know what he is talking about, that the Wheatstone service is far below "high water" mark. I do not desire to criticise its many weaknesses. I merely wish to make a suggestion in the form of a query. It is: "Why does the management not seek to remedy the existing evils by placing the 'Morse' operators at the 'perforators' and at the 'tape.' It would not require much practice on the part of a good 'Morse' operator to enable him to transmit from 'tape' or to learn to 'punch.' The best method of copying I know of, is for one 'Morse' operator to send from 'tape' to another on a local circuit. This combines skill and experience. The company would gain by being able to move business rapidly over the wires and there would be fewer 'bulls' and less delay. I do not doubt but it would be a *cheaper* service than the present. 'Bulls' and 'delays' and lost messages cost money. Why not *add* to the pay roll of the Wheatstone department and *subtract* from the 'claim' account? A good Morse operator sending on a local circuit from 'tape' and a first class receiver could do more 'copying' than three or four of the average copyists who are now wearing their eyes out over the 'tape' and 'bulling' the business. An experienced Morse operator has to learn to read all kinds of manuscript and would make a better 'puncher' than the inexperienced boys and girls who are at present employed in this service at some points. My suggestion is: For the company to do away with the present labor which is *not cheap at any price* and place the Morse operators on the Wheatstone. Pay them good salaries and receive good work."

"Bucket shops," as those gaudy establishments which furnish the opportunity for the possessor of a slender purse to speculate in pretty much the same manner as his more fortunate brothers, the Goulds and the Vanderbilts, are technically termed, used to employ many operators. Lately however the "shops" have found it very easy to secure ticker service, thus reducing office expenses materially but at the same time creating a golden opportunity for sharpers to fleece them that the sharpers have not been slow to seize. Thus it is explained why "brokers jobs" are scarce and why so many bucket shops fail.

The vacancy that was caused in the management of the Western Union Petroleum Exchange office by the death of George St Clair several months ago, still exists. There are several young men in that office capable in every way of representing the company and the promotion of one of them would be a reward that would awaken the zeal and ambition of others.

Col. Hayden has returned to the Cable department and resumed his old position on the early morning staff to the great relief and joy of Chief Operator Locke.

Vibert Salter, recently employed in the Cable Service at North Sydney C. B. and 16 Broad St, New York, is now in the Standard Oil Company's employ at 26 Broadway.

General Superintendent Parker, of the Postal, Chicago, Ill., was in town last week, also Superintendent Adams, of the same company, Philadelphia.

Mr. David Wark, a prominent operator of the C. N. D. 195 Broadway N. Y., has been elected a member of the 2nd. Brigade, U. S. Signal Corps.

W. B. Hubbell, of Nashville, Tenn., desires the address of James P. Brien formerly of that city.

Mr. Charles P. Toy, is now with the W. U. at 2629 Third avenue., N. Y.

M. B. Knerr, is now with the *Gazette* at York, Pa.

TRANSFERS.—Daniel Minihan Nashville, Tenn, to Kansas City, Mo., J. C. Lynch, Louisville, Ky. to Nashville, Tenn.;

M. L. Stover Weeden, to Wilmington, N. C.; J. Williams, Woodstock to Mimico, Ont., for the G. T. R.; J. S. Creegan, Denison, Tex., to Sedalia, Mo.; Edwin H. Sargent, White River Junction, to Windsor Vt.; W. E. Giffin, Syracuse, N. Y. to Long Island City, N. Y.; P. H. Ryan, Troy, to Syracuse, N. Y.; E. Heasley, Omaha, Neb., to Irwin, Pa.; W. H. Hardin, Catawba, to Ashville, N. C.; C. D. Lee, Detroit, to East Saginaw, Mich.; Geo. S. Blank, Turners, N. Y., to Ridgewood, N. J.; Miss B. Keith Port Dalhousie, to Peterboro, Ont.,

Manager Flood, of the Postal, has presented to Manager Dealey, of the Western Union, a photograph of the chief operators of the Postal, with this inscription "Compliments of the manager and chief operators of the 'only opposition.'" The picture was presented on January 24th.

AN EXCELLENT PHOTOGRAPHIC GROUP.—A happier looking, better dressed or a more contented body of ladies and gentlemen than that which on Sunday morning, January 13th, assembled at Dana's studio, Broadway and Eighteenth street, for the purpose of being photographed in a group it would be hard to find. The picture which is to occupy a conspicuous place in the general operating department of the Western Union Telegraph Company's main office is a work of art second in kind to nothing that has ever before been attempted. Indeed it is asserted by prominent photographers in this and neighboring cities that a larger group has never been taken in the gallery of any artist in this country. The group comprises Manager W. J. Dealy and the following named chiefs: W. H. Jones, A. F. Louer, C. A. Meyer, W. H. Jackson, E. E. Brannin, G. Irving, G. E. Baker, E. Bleakney, D. W. McAneeny, F. Catlin, R. D. Riley, D. B. Mitchell, R. Waycott, E. P. Griffith, E. M. Anson, G. A. Newton, R. G. Stephenson, G. P. Stainton, W. H. Hoyt, L. S. Jones, R. H. Morris, M. Durivan, E. C. Remer, S. P. Frier, G. Robeson, O. K. Newton, F. W. Baldwin, T. Brennan, J. B. Hurd, A. Beatty, E. F. Howell, J. M. Moffatt, C. Thom, P. Shaughness, W. H. Gay, F. Dennis, W. B. Waycott, F. W. Gregory, J. Cleverdon, T. O. Nourse, H. Fitchett, E. F. Cummings, F. A. Eastman, J. B. Sabine, A. E. Sink, P. Sheehan, J. C. Robinson, J. H. Dwight, T. G. Kennedy, E. W. Firmin, R. S. Keith, E. F. Burrill, G. W. Gardanier, T. E. McAllister, T. J. Tobin, G. E. Holbrook, T. F. Taylor, L. N. McCarthy, K. E. Donovan, F. L. Dailey, A. Nolan, K. McNally, M. J. Hall, C. S. Sinsabaugh.

MAGNETIC CLUB, ELECTION OF OFFICERS.—On January 10th the members of the Magnetic Club, elected the following offices: President, Charles P. Bruch; Vice Presidents, Wm. J. Dealy, E. F. Howell, Wm. L. Ives, Lant. S. Jones; Secretary, Geo. F. Fagan; Treasurer, John Brant; Governing Committee, J. B. Taltavall, D. W. McAneeny, J. M. Moffatt, W. H. Baker, A. Beatty, E. F. Cummings, Conrad Meyer and T. A. Brooks. The Secretary's address is 195 Broadway.

NORTH SYDNEY CABLE STATION NOTES.—A very successful and enjoyable telegraphers' supper was held here on Saturday 12th inst. Sharp at 8 P. M. found the boys to the number of 22 seated at the table, which held a sumptuous spread provided by Mr. Thos. McLellan. After a worthy justice had been done the very excellent viands, W. E. Earle was unanimously chosen chairman, which position he filled in his usual witty and appropriate style. Toast drinking and speeches were then in order. "The Queen" was given by L. W. Wilson, and received with a hearty rendition of the National Anthem, "The President of the United States" was cheerfully drank, with the ever abiding tune "For he's a jolly good fellow," "Officials of the Western Union," "The management at North Sydney," "Telegraphers in general, and North Sydney in particular," "Our absent chief and other absences," and in fact every thinkable and drinkable toast was royally received. "Our Host and Hostess," was given with a song, "Is that the McLellan?"

lan that keeps the hotel," a clever adaptation of an old rhyme by O. B. Saunders. W. E. Earle then sang an original and very fitting song with a chorus, to the tune of Auld Lang Syne, in which all joined with great zest. A choice selection by our musical trio, C. Robertson (piano) C. F. Byrne (violin) and R. Mitchell (cornet), was then listened to with much pleasure. A recitation, "A little peach in an orchard grew," by A. E. Robinson, with a very natural imitation of gestures, made with an artificial arm. Then came a galaxy of songs, by C. Robertson, T. W. Wilson and O. B. Saunders which were rendered in a manner seldom heard off the professional stage. Messrs. Ramsay and LeCras then cracked a few "beechnuts" in the role of minstrels, accompanying on bones and tambo respectively. Mr. Lemoine sang with excellent taste "The Comallyous" or "Plenty of codfish down at Rock Harbor." The subject of a Telegraphers' Ball was discussed with a noticeable appreciation, and it is probable such an event will occur in the near future. Auf Weidershen—or "Until we meet again," was sweetly played by the trio, and after again singing the national anthem, the boys dispersed, and went quietly out into the now near Sabbath dawn, all voting that among the thoughts of many such events, this should be first. The absence of our popular evening chief L. W. Hoyt, was greatly regretted. Much credit is due to the supper committee, Messrs. Tait and Ramsay, who so carefully made all necessary arrangements.

TORONTO, G. N. W. NOTES.—The annual "compulsory holiday" is upon us, and everybody has got to take his turn to the amount of a fortnight; the benedicts being left to the last, and only get four days or a week. No less than eight operators are now on vacation. Telegraphic communication was cut off from Montreal a whole week, owing to a terrific cyclone, which swept down on Kingston, Ontario, recently, carrying away some half a dozen poles besides doing serious damage to other properties in the neighborhood. Every available lineman east and west of Toronto was immediately despatched there to help out. Even operators were called on in the emergency. Mr. Samuel Hutchinson of the Montreal quad; Mr. Alex Hunter of the C. N. D., and Mr. Geo. W. Hogarth, receiving clerk, were supplied with passes and a pair of climbers and started out. Sam evidently has not forgotten how to climb a pole, and two or three breaks and crosses were soon mended as a result. The storm extended southwest and every wire to Buffalo dropped out of sight, depriving us of our only outlet, which practically disabled business, as Buffalo and Albany supplied us with connection to Montreal. Then the mails were resorted to, and stacks of telegrams were sent out every two or three hours to their destination. Old timers here declare it was the worst storm and layout they ever experienced. Mr. Fred Chaffee of the western states, has almost recovered from his illness at home in Brockville, Ont., and will, it is expected, accept a job at Ottawa during the session. Mr. W. J. Cummings of Chicago, is now at his home in Ottawa. Jas. W. Cormack, who has been ill for the past three months is again at his desk. Messrs. Watts and Goldsmith have been transferred from day to the night force.

A New York lineman a few days ago was about to be arrested when in the act of climbing a pole. The policeman grabbed him by the collar, but being a strapping big fellow, the lineman ascended the pole with the policeman hanging on to him. A crowd quickly gathered and cheered until the din brought out a squad of policemen. The spurred Hercules continued to climb, handicapped as he was by 180 pounds of policeman, until the pair could look into second-story windows. Both finally fell, but neither sustained serious injury.

The Postal Telegraph Company has begun the erection of its line from Washington, southward, and from New Orleans northward.

Mr. T. B. Finnan of Baltimore, Md., was in town January 20th, organizing with Mr. W. R. Blackmond a branch of the O. R. T. in this city. It is Division 129, and had 75 charter members. The O. R. T. pays benefits of \$5.00 per week and \$100 at death, each division regulating the same for itself. The society is extremely popular everywhere.

F. J. Kelley, an expert telegrapher of Springfield, Ill., took charge of the special wire of the *Chicago Tribune* a few days since in that city, and sent most of the matter from the bureau office. Mr. Kelley worked an eastern wire during the National convention at St. Louis, and is one of the most rapid senders ever in Springfield.

A score of Commercial Cable boys whose good behavior and evident interest attracted the attention of the gentleman in charge of an entertainment at the Young Men's Christian Association in New York recently, were invited to the gymnasium at the close and given a very jolly time.

The progress of electricity as a railway motive power is indicated by the fact that there are now in America fifty-six electric street railways in operation, and forty-seven constructing or under contract.

James P. Neary, Cashier of the Mutual Union Telegraph Company, in Boston, has been arrested on the charge of embezzling \$2,000 of the company's money.

Geo. E. Stewart has been appointed assistant night chief of the W. U., Pittsburgh, Pa., vice Vincent resigned.

Mr. Doolittle from Montana has returned to Lafayette, Ind. He was relieved at Helena by Mr. Soule.

Mr. D. H. Gray has transferred from 16 Broad street to the Consolidated Exchange.

Martin Baker's most interesting drama entitled "Above the Clouds," which is to be presented by the New York Telegraph Operators, to what now looks like an unusually large sized audience at Turn Hall Theater on Tuesday evening, February 19th, will in all probability eclipse every entertainment of this character heretofore given under their auspices. The caste is made up almost wholly of telegraphers, prominent among whom are the following: Messrs. Doyle, Hurd, Kranshaar, Byington and Vancura and the Misses Lena Knodell and Emily Millan. Miss Florence Miller, who was expected to take an important part in the piece, was compelled, greatly to the disappointment of her many friends, to withdraw on account of her inability to attend rehearsals. The same evening will witness the first production, on any stage, of an original farce by Martin J. Dixon, entitled "Dots and Dashes." With such well-known telegraphers as Al Louer, A. Cutair, A. Loraine, T. Kinsella, and Miss Rosie Uth, in title role, the success of the sketch seems already assured.

The following office message was handled in a Southern office a short time since: "To New Orleans: Party here refuses to pay charges on messages sent from your office to this office collect. You will please collect there, or you will have it to pay yourself. I won't. Answer at once."

TYPEWRITER RIBBONS.—Typewriter ribbons for the Hammond, Caligraph or Remington typewriters for sale at this office. Price \$1.00 each. Address ELECTRIC AGE, 5 Dey St., New York.

Mr. L. Horton, ex-night manager of the B. O. New York, has been appointed manager of the Northern Pacific Telegraph office at Helena, Mont., vice John Savoy.

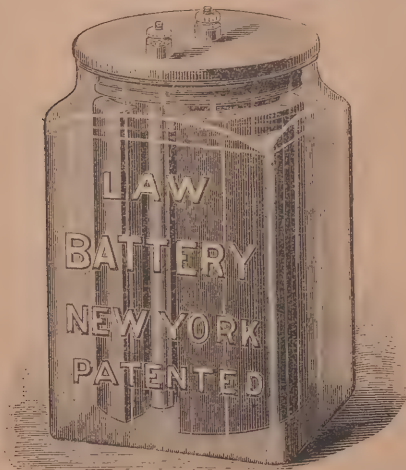
The administration in Brazil is going to fit up all telegraph stations suitably situated with instruments for making meteorological observations.

"Your mother is a widow. Funeral to-morrow" were the contents of a message passing through an office recently.

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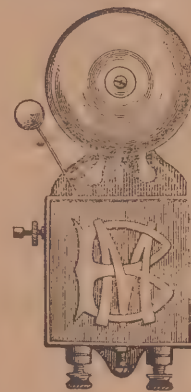
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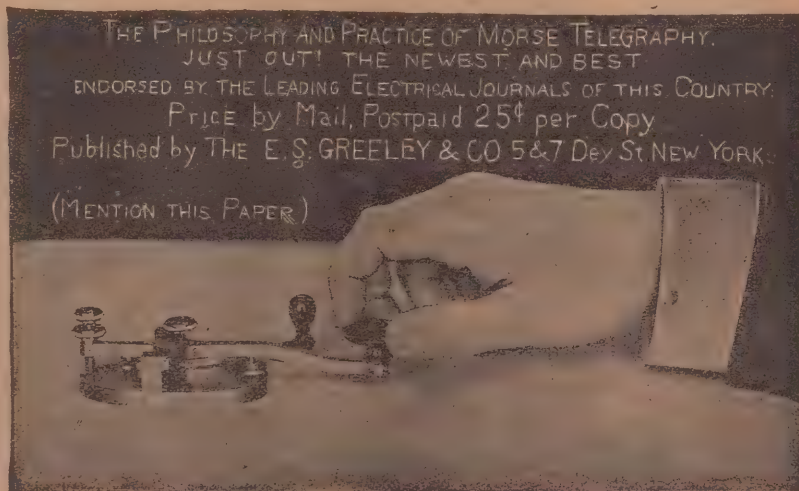
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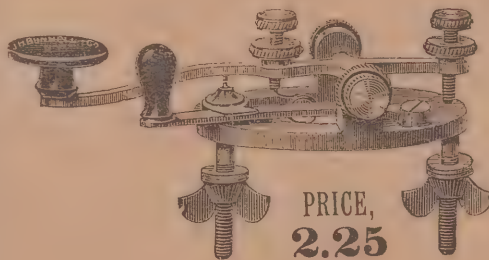
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Steel Lever key sent by mail, post-paid to any part of the U. S. or Canada on receipt of the above price, by Registered Letter or Money Order. Until further notice we will exchange our New Steel Lever Keys for old keys for a cash difference of \$1.50 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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SEND FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE No 10 OF MARCH, 1889.

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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.

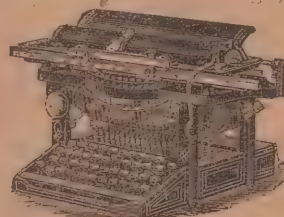
Dear Sir:—I cheerfully certify to the correctness of the above statement of our operator. Signed; Chas. E. Thorp, Telegraph Editor C. G.

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

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

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.)

Pamphlet with portraits of Miss Orr, (champion) and McGurrian, sent on application to

Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,

327 Broadway, New York.

THE ELECTRIC AGE.

Supplement to ELECTRIC AGE.



CAPTAIN SAM'L TROTT, of the Cable Steamer "Minia."



JOHN H. TOPLINE, Chief Operator, W. U. Tel. Co.,
St. Louis, Mo.



WM. HENRY SPENCER, Night Chief Operator, W. U.
Tel. Co., St. Louis, Mo.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

JOHN H. TOPLIFF.

John H. Topliff, chief operator of the Western Union, St. Louis, Mo.; was born in Syracuse, N. Y. 1846. He entered the service of the New York, Albany and Buffalo Telegraph Co. of which James D. Reid was superintendent, as messenger in 1858. He went West in 1873 and engaged as operator in St. Louis, Mo. He was made night chief operator of that office three years later and afterward promoted to be chief operator in charge. Personally, he is well liked by the employees of the company, and has received many flattering testimonials from high officials of the company for his executive ability, the enormous business of the last National Democratic convention being handled without a complaint, under his supervision. Mr. Topliff is a man of cheerful, genial disposition.

WM. HENRY SPENCER.

Wm. Henry Spencer, night chief, Western Union, St. Louis, Mo., was born at Gowanda, N. Y. in 1844. He began his telegraph career at the age of 13 as messenger for the New York Central, at Buffalo. Two years later he engaged with the Erie Ry. (now the Buffalo Div. of the Lake Shore) as operator. He was promoted successively to despatcher, superintendent of telegraph and assistant superintendent of the road. In 1863, he resigned to serve as chief despatcher at Chattanooga, Tenn., for the Government. At the close of the war, he returned North and entered the commercial telegraph service. Mr. Spencer had charge of the constructing of the American Union lines in Illinois and remained with that company at St. Louis, as chief clerk and manager, until they merged with the Western Union, when he was made assistant night chief and soon afterward promoted to his present position.

CAPTAIN TROTT OF THE CABLE STEAMER
"MINIA."

As one of our contemporaries, in an article on submarine telegraphy a few days ago, referred to Captain Trott as the greatest of cable-fishermen, it will be interesting to our readers to learn something of this great navigator, who has lately visited this city.

Captain Samuel Trott was born in Sussex County, England, in 1832. He started a seafaring life at the age of 17, as an apprentice, and at the age of 27 was in command. Previously to taking up the work of laying and repairing submarine cables, Captain Trott was for several years in charge of one of the mail and passenger steamers sailing between England and South America.

He began his career in the cable service by taking charge of the steamer Faraday from the hands of the builders, in 1874, and continued as her commander until 1880. During this time he laid the French and Direct cables and made some remarkable repairs, which showed him to be a man of rare ability. He astonished the world, when in mid-winter of 1876, he sailed from London to Nova Scotia, repaired the Direct cable in a gale of wind and a blinding snow-storm, and was back in the Thames again inside of thirty-five days. As he steamed up the river on his return the marine population who had seen him go to sea were amazed and cheered him lustily. He repeated this great feat the same year in 31 days. Several unsuccessful attempts having been made to repair Atlantic cables in winter, at large expense to cable companies, it was considered absolutely impossible to pick up cables between the months of October and May. Captain Trott, however, proved such an idea was altogether erroneous. His achievements naturally attracted the attention of that able Managing Director, Henry Weaver of the Anglo-American Company, and the command of the "Minia" being vacant, in 1880, Trott's services were secured by him.

Our space will not admit of giving the details of his work since 1880, which has never been equalled. During the past summer he sailed from England to repair the Anglo-Amer-

ican Company's French cable in mid-Atlantic on the same day as the steamer "Scotia," Captain Lucas, sailed to repair the Direct cable, also in mid-ocean. Much interest was felt at the time as to which ship would finish first, but Captain Lucas proved no match for Captain Trott, as the latter completed his work *three weeks* before him, and according to the published reports, the cost of these Direct Co.'s repairs made by the "Scotia" footed up to \$290,000, while those (similar) effected for the Anglo Company, by the "Minia" did not exceed \$110,000.

If this is to be taken as the criterion of the rapidity of which the king of cable repairers does his work, his services must indeed be valuable to his employers.

It has been said of him that he knows the bottom of the Atlantic and the position of every cable as well as a cabman knows the streets of a city, and that on one occasion being aware that a steamer, in laying one of the Atlantic cables, had been compelled during a storm to abandon a length of cable worth many thousand dollars, and happening to be in the locality one day several years afterwards, it occurred to Captain Trott that it would be but little trouble to recover it. He therefore stopped his ship, picked up the cable, and resumed his journey within an hour.

On arriving in port he presented the cable to the company to which it belonged, declining to accept any remuneration for his work.

Captain Trott is a joint inventor with Mr. F. A. Hamilton, the chief electrician of the "Minia," of a new type of deep-sea cable, which many eminent men of the profession believe is the cable of the future. Some forty miles of it are at present being manufactured by the Bishop Gutta Percha Company, of this city, to connect with several islands of Honolulu.

Captain Trott is a man of positive views and a strict disciplinarian, but he is just, kind-hearted, thoroughly honorable, and is much esteemed by all who have the privilege of his acquaintance.

The Heisler system on the Pacific coast, East Portland, Ore., has made a glorious fight with the gas company of that city and obtained the contract for 125-30 C. P. street lamps. The circuits are 12 miles in length, using No. 8. B. & S. American gauge weatherproof wire, and it has been stated by local papers that the lights are very satisfactory to the council and citizens. The plant and circuits will be enlarged and extended by Mr. H. A. Hogue, proprietor of the central station, so as to enable him to furnish commercial and private house lighting from the same station. This makes six large central station plants of the Heisler system on the Pacific coast, most of them furnishing street, commercial and private house lighting from one central station plant on very extended circuits.

Electric heat indicators, consisting of thermometers incased and protected by iron tubes, provided with platinum wires, and connected to a system of electric bells and indicators on deck, are the latest invention for preventing spontaneous combustion among ship cargoes.

The Spalding Telegraph Company, of Baltimore, Md., has been incorporated, to introduce a new system of underground wires for telegraph and telephone purposes.

A Lunch-Ticket Trust is the next on the tapis. Even now there is a corner in them.

Mr. Richard J. Hutchinson, superintendent of telegraph at the Stock Exchange, is the Chauncey Depew of the profession.

Mr. John B. Verity, of London, prominent in English electrical circles, is visiting this country.

Edison's magnetic ore separator is being tested successfully.

Light motors are being made for aeronautic experiments.

THE ELECTRIC AGE.

Published on the 1st and 16th of every month.

Entered as Second-class Mail Matter.

Registered Cable Address
"ELECTAGE" NEW YORK.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION :

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F. E. DOLBIER, Manager, Advertising Dept.
J. B. SABINE, Manager Patent Bureau,
No. 5 Dey St., New York.

H. I. JOLLEY, agent, 195 Broadway, New York.
W. C. ANDERSON, Agent, 7 Wellington St. East, Toronto, Ont.

NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 16, 1889.

Concerning the rumor that the Western Union Telegraph Company was about to supplant the Morse system with the Wheatstone plan, an official is quoted as follows: "The company has been using the Wheatstone system for some time, but only for long distances, gradually introducing it where the business has reached such proportions that the old Morse system has been found to be inadequate to do the work with expedition. The Wheatstone system will take more than ten times as many words as the Morse in the same length of time. It would be quite expensive, however, to introduce the Wheatstone system under the present status of telegraphic affairs in large cities as there are so many branch offices, for it costs just as much to transact a small amount of business as a large volume. The supposition, though that the supplanting of the old system would throw out of work about one-third of the operators at present employed by the Western Union Company, is entirely erroneous. Such an increase of business would result that the present operators would be assigned to the branch offices in the country, where a proportionate increase would take place by reason of the introduction."

W. J. Hammer delivered a lecture on "Edison and his Inventions" at the Franklin Institute February 4th. He described his inventions in detail and spoke of the improvements in telegraph and incandescent electric lighting to Edison. The lecture was illustrated by working models of the inventions. At the close a cornet solo played by Theodore Hoch in New York was listened to by the Philadelphia audience by means of Edison's long distance speaking telephone. This was afterwards repeated by means of the improved phonograph, as was also a solo by Miss Effie Stewart, of the Fifth Avenue Cathedral. Then a phonograph in New York talked into the telephone and the message was received in a phonograph which afterwards reproduced the sounds to the audience. Mr. Hammer sails soon for the Paris Exposition, where he will have the Edison exhibit in charge.

HEMP VS. IRON IN OCEAN CABLES.

A timely and instructive letter it is that Judge R. L. Weatherbee, the manager of the cable companies' repairing service, sends to the Halifax (N. S.) *Chronicle*. He refers to the rapid impairment of ocean cables, and asserts that the cause of this is to be found undoubtedly in the use of iron, which rots away where hemp would stand. That is to say, the gutta-percha which enwraps the copper core should, to his way of thinking, have a serving of hemp alone instead of hemp and iron, as now. He says that down in those depths of ocean where the cables lie, there is not enough motion to part a gossamer thread; it is chemical action, not motion, that is to be feared—an action which hemp will readily withstand, but softening iron so that one may pare it as he would a piece of cheese. Any one who has ever tried a jack knife on a propeller or other iron that has been in salt water several years without repainting, will well understand this. He says that for eight years Halifax has been connected with the town of Dartmouth by a submarine core covered with hemp only, and it is as good as new, so far as is known, and the hempen rigging taken not long ago from the wreck of the Royal George, sunk in 1782, "is as perfect as when submerged."

How important this subject is may be understood from the fact that thirteen cables have been laid across the Atlantic at a cost of \$75,000,000, which, so far, have cost \$25,000,000, for repairs; 7,000 miles of this is, at this moment, lying abandoned because of unsubstantiality; the average life of a cable of the present construction having been estimated at twelve years.

The Western Telegraph Company of Baltimore City and the Western Union Telegraph Company of Baltimore City, elected the following officers: Western Telegraph Company—Richard J. Bloxham, president; James Merrihew, of New York, vice-president; J. J. G. Riley, secretary; R. H. Rochester, treasurer; J. B. Van Every, auditor; W. B. Gill, superintendent. The same officers and directors of the Western Union Telegraph Company of Baltimore City were elected, except that Mr. Charles A. Tinker is a director instead of Dr. Norvin Green.

It is related that a lineman when on a pole on Third avenue, hearing a female shout, beheld through a window a man abusing his wife, who was loudly screaming. On the spur of the moment, he threw his pincers through the glass, and on reaching the ground found a policeman and the woman whom he had attempted to save waiting for him. Instead of receiving any thanks from the woman, he found she had made a complaint against him for assault on her husband, and he finally got off by paying for the pane of glass.

Application will be made by the corporation of the city of Toronto to the legislative assembly of Ontario at the current session, for legislation upon the following: To compel telegraph, telephone and electric light companies to place their wires underground within certain areas thereof, to be defined by law.

THE PACIFIC MUTUAL TELEGRAPH COMPANY, of Kansas City, Mo., has elected the following directors: E. L. Martin, Kansas City; L. D. Parker, Chicago; E. S. Stokes, Dwight Townsend and C. H. Reed, New York City; George M. Myers, Kansas City.

The telegraph linemen have great trouble nowadays with rotten poles, strong winds and worst of all his spurs giving away. His lot is certainly not one of the happiest.

We regret to announce the suspension of the *Railway Station Agents' Journal*, after an existence of four years. It was published by Mr. G. W. Crafft, of Indianapolis, Ind.

Arrangements are completed to push the Pacific Mutual lines to Denver, Col.

WESTERN UNION NOTES.—On the night of the first instant, or more properly speaking about 12.30 o'clock on the morning of the 2nd, there assembled in room 58, all the night chiefs with the exception of one or two who remained to look after the business, to witness the presentation to Night Manager Sink of a handsomely framed picture of all the chiefs in the office. Mr. Sabine in a few well chosen words made the presentation. In the course of his remarks he alluded to the fact that while the gift was but a slight token of the esteem in which Mr. Sink is held, it possessed an historical value in that it commemorated the 14th anniversary of the entrance of the night force into this office. So complete was Mr. Sink's surprise that he was unable to re-enter the operating room for the purpose of locking his desk from which he had been so hastily called, and Mr. E. F. Cummings did it for him. After thanking one and all for the honor conferred, and expressing his regrets that some one had not informed him of the surprise in store, he shouldered the picture, and placing under his arm the heavy oak easel that accompanied it, sauntered home the happiest man to all appearances in New York. The slowness with which the photographs were received from the artist, prompted Mr. Sink whose number was near the bottom of the list to wager with Chief Operator Meyer a twenty-five cent cigar that he would not receive his copy under a week. Mr. Meyer incidentally remarked that he considered the cigar as good as won from the fact that he that day expected a large consignment from the photographers and among them Mr. Sink's. Two days later the jovial chief was the recipient of a huge envelope addressed Con(spirator) Meyer. It contained a cigar. In this connection it might not be inappropriate to relate a little incident that occurred at 145 Broadway after the last connection severed there had been made here, and the last operator left the old for the then new building. Of the entire force employed there Messrs. Thomas Dolan, Thomas Brennan and Thomas Kennedy alone remained. Each seemed bent upon the performance of some particular piece of business though just what its nature was was not apparent. Finally the eyes of the three met, a smile stole over their features and locking arms they all came through the door together. Each of the three had been waiting an opportunity to be the last one out of the office. Phoenix House Shee Company, Poughkeepsie, for Phoenix Horse Shoe Company, Poughkeepsie, isn't bad; but what's the matter with "what are your totally bilitch" for "total liabilities?" If you object to that how does "send me tenderloins at once" instead of "send me ten dollars at once" strike you? Joe Feely hardly knows whether to congratulate himself upon his release from the hospital, where for several weeks he has been confined, for the treatment of rheumatism, or to deplore the fact that he has so many friends here, that he has been compelled to send with his left hand since his tame submission to the "pump handle" act. Mrs. Herrington of the Western Division has gone to Jacksonville Fla. Charles Schram of the regular night force, is visiting the home of parents in Ohio. Charley McCutcheon of the waiting list, and Wm. Stewart of the regular night force after an absence on account of ill health are again on duty. Much sympathy is expressed for Harry Heritage, of the Louisville duplex, whose only child died quite suddenly a few days ago. Miss Sinsabaugh has returned from a brief vacation. Mr. Thomas Dolan after an absence of several months, with a broker firm has rejoined the early night force. A couple of Sundays ago, an operator at New Berlin, N. Y., sent a message to Mr. Moore, of this office who in turn handed it to another operator for transmission. The only thing strange in connection therewith is the fact that all three had the same "sign"—"XX." Nearly one thousand pounds of waste paper, is picked up in the operating room every week in the year. The rumor that two messengers on the one to eight A. M. force, have feet so large that they clog the aisle is slanderous. One

always turns up a side aisle till the other has passed. It was on one of the many nights during which the storm without, and the operator within the building seemed to be in conspiracy, to render as unpleasant as possible the life of a wire chief, that George Baker, after surveying with the eye of a critic a new pair of trousers, recently purchased by Mr. Kennedy cleared his throat, sat about 15 feet away, striking the cuspidor squarely in the centre, and in a voice so beautifully modulated, as to enable the puncher in the Wheatstone to hear every word said., "Tom, where in thunder did you buy those razzle-dazzle pants?" Deftly the hands of the Senior Chief played across and under the board in front of him, pulling out a plug here—inserting one there, and in fact performing so many movements, in so short a space of time, that a new arrival from the country, whose eyes and mouth remained wide open during it all, seemed to have been paralyzed with astonishment. Then quickly turning right about face, Mr. Kennedy, with a slight inflection in the tone of his voice said. "Mr. BAKER! I have no time to night for any ——— levity." And he hadn't. Edward Blakeney, Traffic Chief, on the Western Ways, has resumed work, after an absence of several days on account of severe cold. The expression on the face of a man whose hand has unintentionally monkeyed with the business end of a transmitter, is tame by comparison with that of Frank Clark, of the one to eight A. M. force, when he discovered, that instead of shooting a special he had just received from New Orleans, direct to the "ring," the car took an upward flight, and came to a full stop on top of the poop-deck. A messenger ascended the stairs back of the switch, and brought the special down amid considerable laughter. "Say, look here, young fellow" remarked a night man in a neighboring city, who was painfully trying to receive a special a few mornings ago "there's no use kicking. I'm the best man in this office, and if I can't take you why nobody can. Now go ahead." Less than four words had been sent before there was another break. Then the sender already named, began to steam. "If" said he, "you're the best operator there, for the love of Moses, how many are employed in the office?" Slowly, almost painfully, came the response; "two—me and the day feller."

The arrival of a 11½-lb. boy has made Barney Palmer of the St. Louis Division, one of the proudest men in the office. Kleptomania is again rampant, as many of the ladies in the City-line department have learned to their sorrow. Their losses include almost everything from a hairpin to a cloak. A gold-headed umbrella, a costly muff and a new hat, are among the articles missing within the past few days. The detection of the guilty party or parties is only a question of time, as the management is fully determined to put a stop to the system of petty thieving which, although carried on for some months past, has not before, we believe, been formally complained of. Mr. Walls, an ex-waiting list man, is now with the New Jersey Central Railroad, at Bergen Point.

The Commercial Telegram Company has dispensed with the services of T. Beans on account of slack business. Roland W. Mossman resigned. Dave Dunham has accepted a position with a broker.

B. P. Hancock from Augusta, Ga.; Mrs. Harrington and W. F. Lewis, New York, and J. O. Wilson, Charleston, S. C., are new arrivals at Jacksonville, Fla., for the W. U.

R. B. Gemmell, of Topeka, Kan., has been appointed superintendent of telegraph of the G. C. & S. F. Ry., vice E. LeLoup resigned, with headquarters at Galveston.

F. E. Thompson, for the past few years located at 34th Street ferry for the L. I. R. R., has been transferred to Brooklyn for the same company.

Hugo Wiese, of 64 Stone street, has returned to work after a brief lay off caused by sickness.

KANSAS CITY NOTES.—The arrivals here since last letter are Mr. Minnahan, from Pittsburg, and Mr. Costello, from St. Louis. Mr. Hatch, chief operator of the Wheatstone department, has applied for a patent on an instrument for sending stocks by Wheatstone. The Wheatstone will be used nights after the 16th. Frank Jay, the teacher of a local "plug factory" is under arrest for obtaining a money-order under false pretences, which belonged to one of his scholars. Jack McGill, of the Pacific Mutual, has resigned to accept a job with a broker. Mr. Bunn Hannon has returned from a visit to his home in Springfield, Ill.

Messrs. J. H. Bunnell & Co., 106 and 108 Liberty street, New York, have just issued Catalogue No. 10. It is the latest and most complete electrical catalogue now extant, and a copy should be found in every telegraph office in the country, if only for reference. The information it contains is invaluable to every individual in the electric line. The book is properly and carefully indexed, which reduces to simplicity itself the search for any particular article. Copies may be had FREE upon application, or by sending your address to the above firm.

TRANSFERS.—A. E. Reetz, New York to West Pawling, N. Y.; R. C. Haywood, Raleigh, N. C., to Washington, D. C.; P. W. Williams to the Capitol Building, Lansing, Mich.; John Tracy, Nashville, Tenn., to Chicago, Ill.; Fred R. Gibson, Caney, Ind. Territory, to Irondale, Ala.; R. J. Curran, Sprague to Huntington, Ore.; E. J. Connors, Brockville, to Ottawa, Ont., for the G.N.W.; W. E. Maxwell, to W. S., Ry., St. Johnsville, N. Y.; Mrs. W. A. Pollock, San Antonio, to Ft. Worth, Tex.; R. J. Rockwell, Reno, Nev., to Spokane Falls, W. T.; W. C. Corbett, Reno, Nev., to San Francisco; L. L. Cotton, San Francisco, to Reno, Nev.; F. W. Seaman, San Francisco, to Reno, Nev.; L. M. Boughton, Denison, Tex., to Marshall, Tex.; E. F. Buchanan, Nashville, Tenn., to Aubrey, Tex.; S. P. Baker, Nevada, Mo., to Denison, Tex.

Electric lights are being placed in the Church of the Sacred Heart. In the pastoral residence electricity will also take the place of gas. Electric lights are to be used hereafter in St. Paul the Apostle's Church, New York.

BOSTON'S BALL.—The fourth annual ball of the Telegraphers' Mutual Aid and Literary Association, February 8, was a great success in every way. The hall was filled with members and friends and hosts of pretty girls in attractive attire. Many members of similar organizations out of the city were present, and telegrams of regret because of inability to be present, were received from New York, Philadelphia, Chicago, Washington and St. Louis, as were cablegrams from London and Valencia, Ireland, all of which were read from the platform. There were many lady managers and operators present, and the platform was fitted with a galaxy of the light of the craft, male and female. There were present, among other well-known people, Mr. E. B. Pillsbury, manager of the Postal; Manager C. W. Henderson of the Western Union; Adj. J. J. Murphy; Mr. D. J. Hern, Superintendent Mutual Union; Mr. J. E. O'Neil, of the Mutual Union, Portland, Me.; Mr. Jas. W. Brady, formerly of Hoosic, N. Y.; Mr. M. J. Slattery, of the New York Base Ball Club; Manager Hiltz, of the Mutual Union, Gloucester; Manager A. J. Boyer, of the Long Distance Telephone; Mr. C. E. Lyman, chief operator of the Western Union, and others.

After a fine programme of promenade music the march took place, over 100 couples following the leadership of Floor Director Robert E. Tobin, who escorted Mrs. Tobin. Following them came Assistant Director Thomas C. Devine and his lady. This completed, all entered with a zest into the festivities of the evening, which with the interruption of the supper, served at midnight by Caterer Tufts, continued until 4 A. M. There were some remarkably fine costumes on the

floor, and many very pretty ones. Mrs. R. E. Tobin, wife of the floor director, was attired in a white ottoman silk, chantilly lace, with corsage bouquet of American beauty roses. Miss Grace McKenzie wore a white china silk, point d'esprit lace, pearl ornaments and La France roses. Mrs. Charles Smith was attired in an elegant costume of black chantilly lace, and wore diamond ornaments. Mrs. J. E. Shorey appeared in white satin, trimmed with lace and pearl passementeries, and wore a corsage of jacquemint roses.

After the first quadrille, a most decided and pleasing surprise was accorded ex-President Eugene J. O'Connor. He was called to the platform and addressed by Chairman John D. Mulloney, of the reception committee, who presented him in the name of the society with an elegant and valuable gold watch, chain and charm, as a token of the esteem in which he is held for his labors as founder of the society and its president for three terms past. Mr. O'Connor, though taken wholly by storm, managed to speak fittingly his thanks and appreciation.

DENISON NOTES.—In the M. K. & T. Ry. office at this point, S. P. Baker is manager, with E. P. Fisher, C. H. Mallanee, J. T. McCarty and R. B. Wilson, days; J. V. Douglas, night chief; W. H. White and B. A. Johnson, night force; J. B. Allen and A. D. Bethard, chief despatchers; J. M. Bennett, O. H. Hackett, C. M. Osborne, C. H. Harris, Ed Sladek and Mr. Gish, despatchers, assisted by Mr. Quaites and A. R. Ellsworth, copiers.

William C. Marvel, formerly station agent for the New Jersey and New York road at Hilldale, N. J., has been appointed station agent at Prospect street, Orange, on the New York & Greenwood Lake road, as successor to J. M. Ferrell, resigned.

The Morse telegraphic alphabet has practically given commerce a universal tongue. Whatever language can be expressed in Roman characters can be cabled by the Morse system from one end of the world to the other.

J. R. Seale, assistant superintendent, W. N. Jones, chief train despatcher and J. R. Rodgers, of the Mobile and Ohio Railway, Jackson, Tenn., were a few years ago Western Union operators at New Orleans.

The handsomest man in the telegraph service is our young friend Tom Finn, employed by the Gold and Stock Company, as reporter on the floor of the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange, New York.

Mr. Geo. Cole, manager of the W. U., Columbus, Ohio, has resigned to accept a position with the American District Co., and S. M. Dunlap, of Cincinnati, has been appointed his successor.

Through a misunderstanding, an article in our last issue announced that Miss Florence Miller would take part in the Telegraphers' entertainment. The statement was incorrect.

The shares of the Postal Telegraph Cable Company have advanced in value materially of late. This fact ought to be an indication that the "only opposition" is prospering.

Electrician Edison is expected at his Fort Meyers (Fla.) winter dwelling-house soon. He has had a ninety-foot stern-wheel steamer built for use on the Caloosa.

The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul and Manhattan Elevated Railways have adopted the Shaver telephone for yard and other uses.

The cable steamer Faraday has arrived at Mexico with nine hundred miles of cable to connect Texas with Mexico.

W. A. Hancock, late of Detroit and St. Paul, is now in Elyria, Ohio, for the W. U.

E. E. Heasley, of Omaha, Neb., is in Irwin, Pa., on sick leave.

PORTLAND, ME., NOTES.—Recent changes at the Western Union office, this city, are as follows: W. F. Cassidy, resigned to accept position with a broker; T. A. Donohue transferred to Boston quad; H. H. White assigned to night trick to fill vacancy; H. E. Jackson resigned on account of poor health; G. H. Mayberry, of Old Orchard, assigned to 12 East to fill vacancy; C. E. Jackson, "extra man," has gone to Portsmouth, N. H.; Frank L. Melt, of the Associated Press wire, resigned and is taking a voyage to South America for his health; W. H. Coffin transferred to "press wires"; Miss Josie L. Bailey transferred from Montreal wire to 4 East; J. E. Connors assigned to Montreal wire. C. D. Livermore continues to look after the welfare of the office as befits a faithful manager; C. H. Stevens, chief operator, presides at the switch; K. W. Starbird is a fixture on Boston quad, as is also C. M. Berry on "western side" and H. F. Woodward on 10 East; E. E. Eastman is night manager and H. M. Breen is the all night man. It is said that Mr. Breen is soon to make his debut as a lecturer. At the Mutual Union office we find A. E. Preble, manager, and J. E. O'Neil, operator. The Commercial Union office is under the management of Major T. H. Winsor; J. J. Gibbons is operator.

MILWAUKEE NOTES.—The Western Union no longer exists in name, in this city. The signs and blanks of that company have been replaced by those of the "Mutual Union," and henceforth Milwaukee will be known as a "M. U." office. The transformation took place on February 1st. The M. U. office which was opened some time ago next door to the Postal, has been closed and notice is given that all business will be accepted at the old Western Union office at Mutual Union rates, which are the same as the Postal's. This is the only way in which the W. U. could give as low rates as the Postal and live up to the agreement with that company. Mr. W. C. Williver has been appointed manager of a new M. U. office on east Water street.

TORONTO C. P. R. NOTES.—A young doctor, and agent of a C. P. R. village office, who is apparently not as well versed in electricity as he is in medicine, when visiting our Toronto office, and upon looking at the switchboard, remarked "That's a big cut out." The talked of dull times by the G. N. W. Co. have not occurred to the C. P. R. as yet. When the full staff is present, every operator's time is fully occupied. And notwithstanding the generally computed laxation of business, during this period of the year, the C. P. R. seems to be experiencing a steady daily increase in their business. This company handles all of the dominion parliamentary special reports, for three, out of the four, morning papers of Toronto. R. J. Stewart has gone to Chicago for the Postal Company, and John Luxon fills the vacancy. The present C. P. R. staff consists of the following: Homer Pingle, superintendent; A. W. Barber, manager; F. C. Robertson, manager of circuits for Ontario division and chief operator; J. D. Smith, assistant chief; H. J. M. Wilson, night manager and chief operator. Ed McSweeney, J. Collie, H. Lillie, C. Graham, Geo. Carlisle, Geo. Grinton, Ed Stiver, R. B. Green, J. Luxon, M. Cummings, J. Strachan, W. Richardson, N. Budge, Vick Barber, N. McCallum, W. Barber, J. Shoemaker, Geo. Flannery, Misses Wynn, Smith, Thorley, Mrs. Madden, W. J. Anderson.

The second annual dinner of the Western Union Cable staff, which took place at the Western Hotel, Penzance, England, on New Year's day, was a most enjoyable affair throughout, and was well attended. Mr. E. Chambers was chairman, and Mr. T. N. Wood vice-chairman. Others who took an active part in making the festivities such a grand success were Messrs. G. Adson, Brock, Loam, Pitts, Stevens, Wilkins, Odonoghue, Amor, Brown, Paget, Oliver, Walton, Ashley, Robson, Smith and Pascoe. Mr. H. V. White's performance on the piano was loudly applauded.

On Tuesday evening, February 12th, a paper was read by

Lieut. F. Jarvis Patten, U. S. A., on "A New System of Multiplex Telegraphy," before the American Institute of Electrical Engineers, at New York College.

The annual dinner of the employees of the Atlantic Cable companies, at Martinelli's, Fifth avenue and 18th street, on Thursday evening, February 21st, 1889, gives promise of being a most enjoyable event. The following gentlemen, who are doing all in their power to make it a success, compose the Committee of Arrangements: Mr. Gaynor, of the Western Union; Blake of the Direct United States; Benning, of the French Atlantic; Stevens and O'Connor, of the Commercial.

The Lecture Committee of the Brooklyn Young Men's Christian Association have secured a promise from Mr. F. W. Jones to deliver a lecture in their hall on Saturday evening, March 9th, 1889, on "The Development of Electrical Transmission by Telegraph and Telephone." The lecture will be profusely illustrated, and from the high standing in the electrical field of the lecturer, it is safe to say that it will be of absorbing interest.

F. Simonds has been transferred from the managership of the Western Union Company's office, at 66 Gold street, to the managership of the same company's office in the Consolidated Stock and Petroleum Exchange.

TESTIMONIAL BENEFIT.—On February 11th, Mr. D. W. McAneeny received the following gratifying note: The undersigned appreciating your ever ready, willing and cheerful response to every call upon you at their social reunions and meetings, and recognizing that the success of those reunions and meetings is largely on that account alone, due to you, desire to manifest in a more substantial manner than the mere ring of applause, their true feeling toward you; and with that view, beg to tender you a testimonial benefit concert, at Chickering Hall. Kindly name an early date when it will be most convenient for you to accept.

Sincerely Yours,

W. J. DEALY and many others.

Mr. McAneeny replied as follows; W. J. Dealy, Thos. Brennan, F. W. Baldwin and others: Your note of this date tendering to me a complimentary benefit concert, duly received.

If in my humble way I have contributed to your enjoyment at our reunions, I assure you it was also a source of pleasure to myself and without hope of other reward or recognition, than that of your esteem and friendship.

I appreciate the honor intended, and accept the same in the spirit in which it was offered.

I would respectfully suggest Saturday evening, March 2d, at Chickering Hall, New York City, as time and place.

I am, gentlemen, yours sincerely and fraternally,

D. W. MCANEENY.

A RISING YOUNG LAWYER.

There are but few young men who possess the energy necessary to attain popularity in the short space of six years.

Mr. John B. Sabine, counselor-at-law, whose offices are at 181 Broadway, is one of them. His specialty is real estate law. Mr. Sabine, through his energy and close application to business, has made an enviable reputation among the legal fraternity, and we predict that in a short time will become a shining light among them.

Mr. Sabine, before commencing to practice law, had been for years one of the leading electricians of the Western Union Telegraph Company at their main office. He devotes considerable time to patent law and patent cases. Those having any legal business in the line of electrical patents could do no better than to secure his services, his special knowledge in this direction enabling him to score many a legal victory where others equally brilliant fail for want of practical knowledge of details in electrical instruments and phenomena.—*The Court Journal*.

PHIL PEPPER'S CHRISTMAS.

By JOHN H. MILLER.

(Concluded.)

"Hello, Jerry; how do you find yourself?" said the red-nosed operator, saluting the man behind the bar and divesting himself of his cud of tobacco; "Jones and Smith, friends o'mine, Jerry, and Pepper; one of the boys, Jerry," he continued, lowering his voice and winking stealthily.

Jerry was a tall man, thin and smooth, with a carmine complexion. He contented himself with nodding shortly to Jones and Smith, but insisted on shaking hands with Phil and reached over the bar to do it. "If you're a friend of Jim Wilson's, you're all right," he said; "what'll it be, gents?"

"I think I'll have a little of the same, Jerry," said Wilson, for that was the fast operator's name, "with a dash of ginger," he added, clearing his throat and resting his elbow on the bar.

"Same," said Jones.

"Same," said Smith.

The bartender looked inquiringly at Phil.

"Oh, he'll take a little 'soft stuff,' with a 'stick' in it," said Wilson. "Let's sit down, boys."

Phil thought that Wilson was unusually considerate of him and began to think that, after all, he was not a bad fellow. He would drink the "soft stuff," anyhow, and not further offend him by refusing. It was only ginger beer.

Chairs were drawn up to a small table at one side of the room and Jerry brought the drinks on a tray.

"Join us Jerry?" said Wilson, tossing him a piece of money.

"I'll take a cigar, Jim," rejoined the barkeeper, helping himself from a box behind the bar. "Thanks."

"Here's looking at you," said Wilson, raising his glass.

The three men drained their glasses at one swallow and replaced them on the table. Phil Pepper took a sip from his and did the same. The "soft stuff" tasted queer, but it was not unpalatable, and, observing Wilson steal a glance at him, Phil took another.

"Operator?" asked Jones of Wilson, after a short silence, and jerking his thumb at Phil.

"Fine one."

Phil raised his glass again and took a long pull to hide his blushes. Wilson, the fastest operator, was praising him.

"Umph! pretty young 'un," remarked Smith, toying with his empty glass. "What's he sign?"

"What d'ye sign, anyway, Pep?" asked Wilson. He even smiled at Phil as he spoke and looked as pleasant as could be. The fast operator was thinking better of "mother's boy."

"'P R,' sir," said Phil.

"What!" cried Jones, "Not 'P R'! Why I've worked with you old man; 'J O' at 'O X' you know; give us your hand! Jim, he's the best sender I ever copied after. Well, this *is* friendly."

Jones seized his hand and shook it warmly. Smith and Wilson looked on approvingly. When he had finished wringing Phil's hand Jones summoned Jerry and ordered the glasses replenished. "Let us have four of a kind this time, Jerry," he continued, "and all the same."

The boy knew that this order implied that he must drink whiskey, but he said nothing. Jones was a good fellow and had helped him on the wire. Once he had telegraphed to Phil from "O X," advising him to send the short messages first and the long ones last. Poor Phil! The novelty of personally meeting the operator from the other end of the wire he had worked had not worn off in his case. He was excited and confused and flattered, and when Jerry brought the drinks he drank his with the others and never once thought of his mother or Clara, or Mary, or Little Sarah!

When Phil Pepper regained his senses it was Christmas morning. The light of the sun was streaming into his bedroom and the church bells were calling the people to service. He started to rise from the bed, but fell back, weak and trembling. His throat was parched and thick, his hands white and heavy and his head and brain a whirling, feverish, burning spinning-wheel of fire.

Oh! what a night he had passed! Forty thousand devils had tortured him in his dreams; rolling, pushing, pulling him up and down over a heaving sea of molten fire; darting off bodily with him into unknown space and dropping him again with such speed that he shuddered in the terrible descent, and his terror was worse than death itself, though he seemed to alight softly—too softly! on a suffocating bed of feathers a mile deep. Gradually his tormentors left him and then began a new era. He was making a speech to an audience of millions. The people's faces rose, tier above tier, into infinite space, and the roar of voices was deafening. When he raised his hand to command silence, the mighty surging mass swept down upon him and bore him away with an awful shout and crushed and ground him to pieces. He was swimming beneath the sea; struggling and fighting with the monsters of the deep and they tore him limb from limb. He stood on dizzy heights and fell;—down, down, down! Would he never stop? ugh! The devils caught him up again and bore him away into oblivion and he knew no more.

Slowly and painfully consciousness returned and he remembered the events of the night before. He groaned aloud when he thought of the scene in the barroom and wept bitterly in agony of remorse. Where were the Christmas presents he was going to buy? Oh, why had he taken the drink! What would his mother say of him now? and his money! he had spent much of it, he feared. He was lying on the bed, half dressed, and with nervous fingers he hastily searched the pockets of his trousers. Not a penny was there. He crawled from the bed and unsteadily made his way to where his coat and vest lay on the floor beside his battered hat. It was the same; the pockets were empty. Poor boy! He remembered all now. How drink after drink had passed his lips in the wild delirium of intoxication; how he had paid for many of the "rounds" himself; how Smith had said he was "a little short" and Phil had loaned him "a trifle;" how others had joined the party and Phil had "treated" all, and how, at last, the whole party had gone to a gaming table, staked their money and lost!

Phil drew on his coat and vest as quickly as his nerveless hands could do it, and, smoothing out the dents in his hat, slowly made his way to the street. The air was sharp and cold and but few people were stirring. Errand boys and porters were sweeping out the stores and offices shouting the cherry news across the street to each other that "we're going to close up at noon," and a few stragglers were hurrying to the churches. But Phil, with his eyes on the pavement and his hat drawn over his forehead, did not see or hear them, but kept straight on his way to the big office. He had determined to see the superintendent, to tell him all and ask him to advance him some money. It was a bold undertaking, but some very modest and timid people are sometimes bold enough in time of pressing need, and Phil Pepper was one of them.

The superintendent happened to be at his desk in the office when Phil entered. Not that he had much work to do, probably, for it was a holiday. But there were others there for whom it was no holiday, among them the cashier; and what is a superintendent for, if it isn't to see that the other fellows do their work? There the superintendent was, anyhow, and he looked very hard at Phil as the boy tremblingly presented his pale face.

"Well, Pepper, what do *you* want?" he sternly demanded, making a pretense of looking over some papers that lay on the desk before him.

"I—I would like some money, sir," began Phil.

"Money! It was pay day yesterday; what do you mean?"

"I know, sir," said Phil, "but—"

"But you were drunk' sir; you were drunk last night, and you are drunk now!"

Phil Pepper burst into tears and said "Yes, sir, I was."

The cashier stopped in the middle of a column of figures and looked over his shoulder long enough to sneer and frown and then resume his additions. The superintendent stared very hard at his desk a moment, scratched his head thoughtfully and said briefly:

"Come this way, Pepper."

Superintendents and managers and presidents of big companies usually have a small room somewhere near their business' office, marked "private." I suppose this is so that when they get tired of blustering and bossing and glaring and growling, they can go in there, lock the Company out, and be human beings for a while. It must be so, for it was to such a room the superintendent led Phil, and from which Phil, half an hour later emerged, smiling and bowing and thanking the superintendent, and from the doorway of which that gentleman called out, as Phil darted away,

"—and don't forget, a cold-water bath first, then, ahem! drink a glass of hot seltzer."

The cashier followed Phil to the door, looked up and down the street, kicked a poor, shivering dog off the steps, and went back to his figures.

Phil was back at the office within an hour, smiling and bowing harder than ever and presenting a wonderful change. The superintendent had been hard at work during his absence—no pretending about it now—and was softly whistling and writing when Phil stepped briskly forward.

"Well, did you get 'em?"

"Yes, sir," said Phil.

"The cloak, too?"

"Yes, sir."

"And the shoes and dress?"

"All in a big bundle at the depot, waiting for me."

"Good! What time does your train leave?" said the superintendent, consulting his watch.

"At fifteen minutes to eleven, sir," said Phil; and the happy fellow smiled so honestly and so openly and so widely as he said it that a great big tear was dislodged from the corner of his eye, rolled down his cheek, glanced off his upper lip and spattered on the floor.

"Very well; you have time to take this note up to Johnson's and get some breakfast before you go. Come in to-morrow and tell me how the things fit, and don't forget your promise."

"I will sir," cried Phil, "and I won't; I'll never drink another drop so long as I live!"

And to the best of my knowledge he never has.

ASLEEP AT THE WIRE.

GARRY W. RUSSELL.

"Stars of the summer night:
Far down yon azure deep:
Hide, hide your silvery light,
She sleeps, my lady sleeps.
She sleeps, she sleeps."

"*Somnus est imago mortis.*"

Sleep is the image of death.

Such is the observation of an ancient writer. He defines sleep as the image but not death itself.

At a distance one sees the prostrate form, the closed eyes and fixed features, but a closer inspection shows the regular movement of the chest with now and then a nervous twitching of the eye and facial nerves.

If the sleeper snores, a more emphatic evidence of life is apparent, and this may be intensified by a propensity to roll from side to side, winding the bed clothes about him as securely as a physician winds bandages around a fractured limb, and then unwinding and kicking them out upon the floor in wild disordered confusion.

However, these generalizations are not the object of this sketch, and are given merely as an introduction to observations I once made upon the night telegraph force of a distant city where I was located some years ago.

Let me not be understood as making any reflections upon our craft as being prone to indulge in the sleep habit to the detriment of business or neglect of duty. Far from it. On the contrary, they are bright, alert and attentive to their task. And necessarily so. Their duties demand the closest care and wakefulness. Sharpness of wit; correctness of judgment, and facility to detect and challenge an actual or seeming error in sending or receiving, are attributes demanded by their responsible calling.

But there are lulls in the night, when the magic words "no more in" come to the wearied brain and hand as words of sweet import, second only to "30" or "good night." It is then that the ticking of the instruments, which, a moment before required labored watchfulness, seem like the sirens of a fabled story to invite us to a dangerous repose.

As the sirens by their enchanting music lured mariners upon the hidden rocks to destruction, so the tinkling of the "sounders" beckon and call us to dreamland.

Then the fun begins.

A paper ball whizzes past his ear. The dreamer hears it but thinks its the wing of a bird of gaudy plumage, and that he is an operator in Brazil. The thrower is helped by five others, and a volley of balls greet him on the head. He moves not, thinking he is in the groves of Havana, shaking an orange tree with the fruit falling about him. The balls cease. Every office clerk passing by bestows a comment; "Stick a pin in him and see if he's alive;" "All off at City Hall." "Alas, poor Yorick I knew him well," "Tickets, tickets," "Harlem last station," being expressions used. Finally a chief spies him and shakes him awake after one minute's repose.

These methods, however, are not necessary to arouse an operator. It is a fact that a telegrapher may be utterly insensible to all extraneous circumstances; yet, if his instrument ticks his office call a few times, he is up and active in an instant.

A railroad telegrapher can attest this truth more fully than the "commercial" man. In many cases his duties are limited to reporting a train or answering a call, and the tedious hours at a country station, all silent and gloomy, rarely pass without his yielding to nature's sweet restorer. The office call or shriek of a locomotive whistle alone disturb him, and the nap is resumed after reporting the train or answering the call.

Years ago in the office alluded to above, the wakeful men would occasionally match a couple of sleepers for a purse. The sleepers all unconscious of being the butts of playful sport were watched and commented upon in a manner that excited the "force" to a wild hilarity.

At one time during the contest, the anxiety of the backers of one of the contestants was painful to witness, as he with a sudden start awoke and found a "wire message" on his hook. Hope was restored, however, by his hastily sending it and immediately relapsing into slumber. At this juncture the other contestant, who slept cross-legged, awoke.

Odds were at once given on No. 1; but No. 2 resumed after simply crossing his left leg upon the right, the first position being prejudicial to prolonged effort. Meanwhile the mirth increased. The betting was again even, bulletins of the progress of the match were circulated around. The backers of No. 1, based great hope upon their man from the fact that he slept in a gloomy spot, while No.

2 was in the full glare of the powerful light. Imagine their surprise when their contestant abandoned the field with a record of 3 hours, 45-6; while No. 2 handicapped as he was continued on "winning hands down" in the wonderful time of 4 hours, 22-6.

With the present advances in telegraphy these records can never again be equalled.

The vigilance of chiefs; the jests of associates and the bulk of business, make it impossible to repose more than a few seconds. In fact from a record made in the New York office, 5 minutes and 23 7-8 seconds is the greatest time accomplished in two years, and this by an operator off duty, who fell asleep while practicing type-writing in the Wheatstone department at 3 A. M.

But when I recall the good old days of the past, I invariably feel jaded and drowsy; and I often wonder if the capitalists, speculators and bankers, who retire to their sumptuous coaches with nerves unstrung and heads teeming with schemes, do not, while they hear hour after hour pealed forth and vainly woo the sable goddess, envy my old friend No. 2 who won hands down in 4 hours, 22-9. He lives today a sturdy, obese representative of a sleepy past, and, recently he assured me that his somnolent power was unabated and that he could exercise it at will.

The different positions assumed by the craft while sleeping at the wire form an interesting study and afford data from which to determine the man's leading trait of character, the wire he works, his salary, and, in marked cases, his age and habits.

These phases can be shown as readily as the phrenologist proves characteristics by an examination of the bumps of the head.

I have acquired this knowledge by long and patient observation, countless comparisons and deep research. I submit the following rules for the benefit of the fraternity:

SIMPLE POSITIONS.

Both feet squarely on floor; head resting on right hand. Even tempered; amiable man; single, watches repeaters. Salary \$125.

Ditto; head resting on left hand. Irritable; skirmisher on way wires. \$45 a month.

Ditto; both hands supporting chin; bold; belligerent; works quad roast. \$80.

Ditto; upright in chair; head thrown back. Indifference; neglect; blots copy; bulls business. \$50.

LEG EXTENDERS.

Both legs extended; head thrown back; hands in pockets. Daring, courageous, dashing; thinks he is on a toboggan; fast sender; poor receiver. \$70.

Ditto; one hand in pocket; rapid receiver; poor sender; loves children. \$75.

Ditto; both arms hanging listless at his side. Generous, composed, frank. Good all round man. \$80. P. S. Also has a broker job days.

CROSSED-LEGGED CLASS.

Left leg over right; head hanging towards left side; hands folded. Pious, melancholy; sings at Salvation Army meetings; likes "Jumbo's Jolly Jokes;" way wires. \$45.

Right over left; head towards right side; hands between knees or in pockets. Cautious, suspicious, designing. Counts message checks three times and puts correction slips on every third message; way wires. \$35.

MISCELLANEOUS CLASS.

Face flat upon desk; hands hanging. Remorseful, sorrowful; wants sympathy; married man; way wires. \$65.

Face flat on desk; open palms on sides of face. Disso-

lute bachelor; out previous night painting town; generous, fearless. Good man but going wrong. \$80.

Knees bent behind chair; hands clenched in pocket; lips compressed. A crank; constantly fighting on wire; reports men for trifles. \$75.

(END.)

EARLY TELEGRAPHIC DAYS IN THE NORTH-WEST.

BY EDWARD CURRY.

After perusing a mammoth holiday edition of the *Minneapolis Tribune* or *St. Paul Pioneer-Press*, one may be excused for drawing comparisons with the earlier days of those two cities. Comparisons are said to be odious, but, in the case of the twin cities they are excusable so long as you do not compare them one with the other, which I hear is not always safe; but, the story told of a Minneapolis preacher who refused to preach from the Epistles of St. Paul, is doubtless the invention of some outside wag or envious barbarian, and is not worthy of credit.

The panic of '57 found St. Paul a thrifty trading point, values inflated, money easy, and the city spreading out rapidly on paper and left it a burst bubble, and the outlying towns shared the same fate. Slowly recovering early in the sixties, the war excitement began to boom matters when the discontented Sioux Tribes, encouraged by the exodus of recruits, swooped down upon the scattered towns and villages of Minnesota, driving and slaying all before them. Every conveyance from the interior brought in terrified settlers, some of whom, it is well known, never stopped their flight until they had reached their former homes in Europe. The lack of railways and telegraphs aggravated the distress.

About this date J. M. Winslow secured help, donations and subscriptions, and built a telegraph line from St. Anthony to Lacrosse, to there meet the wires of the Wisconsin State Company eastward, and a profitable business sprung up. The Winslow lines which cost their owner but little hard cash, were soon for sale, and about 1863, while the Burbank Stage Company was considering an offer of \$25,000, the Wisconsin State Company stepped in, bought the line for \$30,000, and merged their whole property into the North-Western Telegraph Company. Tariffs were very high, to Lacrosse 90, Milwaukee 1.40, Chicago 1.90, New York 3.10, Washington 3.30, and so on.

About this date, 1863, the Company sent its Superintendent North to close Minneapolis office and have the St. Anthony office do the business for both towns. He returned and recommended a further trial, as the former place showed signs of life, and would soon he thought pay expenses. Picture it, ye proud Minneapolitans of to-day.

As late as 1865 when I came West and took charge of St. Paul office, I found two short branch lines thence to Stillwater (Prison city) and Minneapolis, which we alternately switched into circuit 30 minutes each to send and receive their business, the force at St. Paul consisting of myself and one messenger boy. My office hours were from 8 A. M. till midnight, or 30 on report, on week days, with Sundays to worship the Lord and write up the books, largely devoted to the latter I fear. When the line broke southward, and the repairer was on the road, for there were no railroads, the managers were expected to take tools, hitch up a horse, drive out, repair the break, and return post haste to business. An occasional break towards night was a God-send to the fraternity, for it meant a full night's rest for him, though the complimentary remarks of the night editors, deprived thus of news from the outer world, upon the lack of facilities necessities of more routes, more wires, stingy company, ad infinitum, had often acted as a damper upon any hilarious impulse on the part of the solitary knight of the key, and was apt to encourage the nightmare. The year 1866 brought me an assistant, and later a night operator, and life began to

be worth living. This was the first night operator employed north west of Milwaukee; the messenger force had also grown to two but luckily, the city was small and the boys industrious. C. E. Hughes, now manager at St. Paul, joined us about this time; Minneapolis also began to wake up, and she clamored for night press report, which brought operator No. 2 to that thrifty burgh. I remember about this time our whole force (three) spending the glorious Fourth of July holiday sailing on Lake Minnetonka, and being becalmed, saw the last train start for home 30 miles away, with an unfeeling toot at our helplessness, and we reached home several hours late. A few news items were missed, the *Press* scolded us, while the *Pioneer* more easy going, excused us on patriotic grounds, and abused the rival editor. But a tender spot was touched, for when one city got an item that the other missed, trouble ensued, and this jealousy, continued some years, until through wires were strung, and both cities were put on an even footing.

In those early days, work was hard, hours long, business crowding and facilities inadequate; but an *esprit du corps* existed among the fraternity that I fear is lacking in later years. Frequently operators at towns along the upper Mississippi would sit up until after "30" at midnight, to get off their eastern messages, rather than disappoint their customers, and not all male operators either. The steel river overhead crossings caused a great trouble when the water was high. On the first trip north of the big down river steamer "Tom Jasper," on her way to St. Paul, the tall pipes caught our steel crossing between Hastings and Prescott, the current was strong, so was Tom and the wire-like Col. Jones' coon—came down. The two lady operators at those towns, Misses Leduc and Atherton, the latter long since dead, did efficient work relaying business during this and like emergencies.

Electrical science was not very advanced, for on one visit of the inspector, Hankinson, down river to ascertain why a ground wire did not work satisfactorily, he found that the lady operator had run it into one of the cells of the local battery, the *dampnest* place she could find—almost equal to Superintendent Merrill of the Lacrosse road, who, being told that the operator beyond held his key open, exclaimed, "then tell the ——— to close it so you can send my message!"

In those days business was brisk along the river towns, the war was over and veterans were returning home. The boys in blue, when paid off and mustered out, usually invested in a suit of store clothes, paying little heed to fit or material. Frequently they used the wires to spread the news of their discharge and intentions. They were sometimes very hilarious but good natured. On one occasion one of them sent a telegram to his lady admirer at Lake City, her reply elated him and he sent two or three more, trying, as he said, to use up a V on her. Finally she replied, "For God's sake stop telegraphing and save your money." Her prudent remark tickled him so much that he insisted on my receiving an extra V from his roll; I objected as being at variance with business principles, when he drew an old army revolver and declared that he had obeyed orders four years, and now he would give orders for a little while to see how it felt. His unsteady grasp decided the matter quickly, and I took the fee, the first and only time I have had money so singularly thrust upon me. I hope he continued equally liberal after the knot was tied.

But the interior grew slowly awaiting railway development; a rival line was strung along the river, in the interest of the steamboat owners, called the Mississippi Valley National. This became the prey of the Pacific and Atlantic, and this was secured later by the Northwestern Co. The latter also secured a donation of 200 miles of wire from the Hudson Bay Co. to build to the Red River country. They also secured a contract jointly with the W. U. Co. to build lines along the Northern Pacific Railroad, and other railway contracts were being made. In 1866, the

United States Co's lines lying within the territory of the N. W. Co. were purchased by the latter upon the absorption of the U. S. Co. by the Western Union, which brought William Orton into that fold. These wires were roundly paid for, but the investment was a good one and opposition was killed off, and the two companies continued to meet each other half way in all such purchases, each respecting the other's territory. To the Superintendent, Mr. S. Robertson, great credit is due for hard work, zeal and friendly encouragement to subordinates in these years. After this date the twin cities grew rapidly and the forces accordingly increased. Railroads were being pushed out in various directions, and a boom set in that has ever since continued.

I left St. Paul office for duties elsewhere in 1871, my right bower, F. B. Jilson, succeeding me; and already the foundations were being laid for the vigorous system of lines with its 800 offices, turned over by the Northwestern Telegraph Co. to the insatiable maw of the Western Union in 1881, a lease which brought many of us down from official pinnacles after a laborious climb, as such combinations are apt to do. But such is life in this uncertain world.

Enough has been said to show the wonderful growth from small beginnings, of the two rival cities of now 200,000 souls each and fast growing together. May their rivalry always be friendly, for each has a mission of its own to perform in the developments of the great grain-growing territory of the North-west.

New York Jan. 25th, '89.

RECENTLY PATENTED IMPROVEMENTS ON SECONDARY BATTERIES.

The manufacture of secondary batteries in the United States is increasing rapidly with the growing demand for this form of apparatus in electric lighting and applications of power. The question as to whether or not the broad features of improvement attributed and patented to Faure is to be secured to his assignees; the Electrical Accumulator Company, is now in the hands of Judge Coxe and a decision will be rendered very shortly. The recent decision in the United States Supreme Court in the Bate Refrigerating case has eliminated the only defense having any apparent merit. Faure's invention, as is well understood, was the application of an active material to a plate or support prior to immersion in the battery fluid; subsequent inventors modified the nature and form of the support-plate and the manner of combining this support-plate and the active material. Among batteries now obtainable, whether at the hands of authorized manufacturers or infringers, are those having a support-plate of lead; others having a support-plate of lead and antimony, with perhaps a little mercury added; and as regards the form of plate, the key-lock principle is applied to all; perforations having a smaller diameter at or near the centre of the plate, meet with the greatest success; others have cells or perforations, the greatest diameter being at points intermediate the surfaces of the plate. The United States patent records show that the specific modifications mentioned were long since contemplated and patented by an English inventor.

The result of the recent interference between the application of John S. Sellon, of Hatton Garden, England, and Edmond Julien, assignor to The Julien Electric Company, is shown by the issue to The Electrical Accumulator Company (Sellon's assignees) of Patent No. 396,958, dated January 29, 1889, claim 2 being the issue in interference, to wit: "In a secondary battery a plate, element or support, containing lead and antimony in combination with an active material." Recent publications emanating from Julien's assignees give an impression widely at variance from what the issue of this patent shows to be facts. The language of the technical expert of the Patent Office, not referred to in the publication of the Julien Company, shows what the

facts really are: "If Sellon was the first to use plates formed of lead and antimony, or two or more metals, of which lead and antimony are essential, I can see no good reason why he should not claim his invention in such broad terms as would prevent its being pirated by the addition of a small percentage of some other metal. The addition of a small proportion of zinc, tin or bismuth, all of which are well-known constituents of type metals, which are essentially alloys of lead and antimony, would avoid any patent he might obtain, unless he is protected by some such claim as the one in interference, and the purpose of the claim seems to be to protect him from just this danger.

"Julien's claim is included in and subordinated by the claim of Sellon, for the reason that it is directed to an alloy of which lead and antimony are essential ingredients." The issue of this patent gives Sellon's assignees, The Electrical Accumulator Company, the control of the battery employing an alloy plate, whether the present suit based upon the Faure patent now in the Judge's hands, and upon which a decision may be expected within a short time, is favorable or unfavorable. The public may therefore take warning at this time against further infringement on patented rights; for, if upon the decision being rendered against the manufacturers such manufacturers should be insolvent or irresponsible, resort will doubtless be had to consumers or users for an accounting and for damages.

A second very important patent granted on same date to assignees of Sellon for Improvements in Secondary Batteries, No. 396,770, is also of sufficient importance to merit special attention. This is intended to cover and covers a special form of perforated plate, such as is used by the Gibson Electric Company, and such as is shown in the recent modifications of Faure's invention attributed to Anthony Reckenzaun. The Gibson battery makes more or less successful use of a perforated plate produced by piercing a sheet of lead with a series of perforations in such a manner that the openings at the surface of the plate are smaller than the diameter of the perforation at one or more points intermediate the surfaces. The claims of this patent, as will be seen from the example given, cover this construction. For instance: "In a secondary battery a plate, element or support having cells, perforations or receptacles, the diameter of which at or near one or both poles of the major axis is less than the diameter at one or more points intermediate said poles." This gives the assignees of Sellon a practical control of the form of battery manufactured by the Gibson Company, the invention of Sellon, as shown by his English patent, having been perfected long before the construction was adopted by Gibson.

The third patent covers the construction adopted by FitzGerald-Jones, in England, when they were manufacturing batteries for experimental or exhibition purposes. The FitzGerald-Jones plan was to mould a solid peroxide plate and attach a frame-work of celluloid to the edges and parts of the surface thereof; on the inside of this frame between the frame and the peroxide plate, was a thin strip of platinum, but this construction was contemplated and perfected by Sellon long prior to the time of its adoption by FitzGerald-Jones. This third patent, No. 396,769, was issued on the same date as the others above referred to; one claim reads: "In a battery a support or terminal containing a practically inoxidizable material combined with a conductor of platinum and a mechanically-applied active material, substantially as described."

These three patents are all believed to be valid; if so, their ownership places The Electrical Accumulator Company in position to control the accumulator or secondary battery industry irrespective of the Faure patent.

It has been practically demonstrated that speech can be transmitted by telephone, when the current is too feeble for the most sensitive instrument to detect.

ELECTRICITY'S GREATEST TRIUMPH.

HOW A TEXAS BEETLE WAS TURNED INTO A COW.

BY M. W. RUSSELL.

Everybody knows well how arc electric lights exaggerate every shadow, when compared with the size of the object, whether insect, bird, or whatever body intercept the rays of its light; but, nobody knows more about this subject than our friend, Ed. A. Clarke, the well-known ex-telegraph operator and journalist, of St. Louis, now manager of a new electric head-light for locomotives. He was down in Texas recently and fitted up a passenger engine with the new invention he was representing, and then invited the master-mechanic aboard to see how it worked on the trial trip. As the train rushed along the night grew on; beyond the limits of the light's illuminator the darkness was so intense that it looked like encircling walls of black. Ed. was expatiating on the beauty and brilliancy of the lamp, when suddenly the fireman shouted, "Holder! Jim, holder; thar's a cow!" Ed. glanced through the front window of the cab; one look was enough! He thought it was a herd of cows or buffaloes on the track; he didn't know which, and he didn't care whether it was the last specimen on the North American continent or not! One other odd thing we did notice; that was that the animals were kicking and prancing around very queerly, but their gamboling was nothing to be compared to Ed.'s desperate efforts the next minute to reach the rear coach by going over the engine tender. Unfortunately though, his ambition in that direction was crushed out of him. "Jim," the engineer, did "holder," so successfully, too, that, as Ed. claims, he was buried by an avalanche of 400 tons of soft coal, shot out of the tender by the sudden stoppage of the train. It is possible that he rather overestimated the quantity of the coal that fell on him. A man can't be expected to count coal accurately under such pressure of circumstances. He had plenty of time though to form a deliberate opinion, while the trainmen went ahead to ascertain the nature of the obstruction. Singularly enough it proved to be nothing more than a large specie of migrating beetle, common to Southern Texas, that had been attracted by the unusual light, and it was the shadow of one of the first arrivals of their number that the firemen had seen and mistaken for a cow on the track. The train moved on, but it was an hour or so after that before the coal could be removed from Ed.'s prostrate form, and now he is back, in St. Louis, consulting with the inventor of the apparatus with the object of having its focus power reduced.

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.—The new arrivals are Messrs Keene and Farley for the Western Union and Schell for the Postal Company. Their advent here is caused by the increased business on account of the State legislative session. Thos. Clohessy, manager of the Pacific Mutual office, Kansas City, Mo., is a member of the present house, having been elected from that city.

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—The Postal Telegraph Company have moved into their new quarters on Olive street between Broadway and Fourth. The office is handsomely fitted, and fronted by numerous new and attractive signs. There have been few or no changes in their force lately, and business is quite brisk for this season of the year. The Electric light companies of this city have all consolidated and will now be under one management. The Bell Telephone Company are threatening to pull up stakes in Missouri because of the prospect of a State statute for the reduction of their tolls from \$100.00 to \$80.00 per year rental. There are about a dozen operators "on the block" without prospect of catching on. The Western Union claim business is quiet with them, and the tendency is toward a reduction of the Morse force with an increase of the Wheatstone facilities. Messrs Ritchie, Lewis and Bacon are the Western Associated Press force. Bro. Shaw and Doc. Tremaine officiate for the United Press.

WATERTOWN, N. Y., NOTES.—J. Foster Paddock, formerly of Glen's Falls, is now here with a broker. Chas. Knapp has gone to Pennsylvania for a broker. Richard Holden, Jr., manager Postal, having resigned to enter mercantile business, is succeeded by Mrs. Proctor, from Antwerp. Among the old-time brass-pounders here now, prospering in other than the "tick" business, are: Wm. D. Hanchette, ex-City Chamberlain and Superintendent Telephone of Northern and Eastern New York; Edward Harmon, ex-dispatcher, bookkeeper for an extensive paper company; Henry Lefevre, formerly manager Dominion, now connected with a paper firm; Geo. Lance, proprietor of a yarn industry; Wm. B. Sylvester, Secretary of the Watertown Spring Wagon Co; Geo. Yager is still connected with the Watertown Steam Engine Company. The O. R. T., of this city, intend giving their initial ball on February 14th, in Music Hall. The Order has been in existence since last spring, and is flourishing; also, swelling in membership. Nearly every operator on the line of the R. W. & O. R. R. has become a member of the Railway Telegraphers. Among the members in this vicinity, who promote the organization, are Frank D. McCormick, S. D. Blanchard, city; Edw. G. Webb, dispatcher, DeKalb Junction; W. L. Beecher, DeKalb; Fred. Rogers, Ogdensburg; M. H. Matty, Sandford's Corners; G. C. Whittemore, Brownsville; W. H. McIntyre, Adams' Centre; H. W. Slack, Lowville; F. Clark, Keeneville; W. L. Clinck, of Sandy Creek, formerly with W. U., Oswego; L. D. Fenner, Limerick; W. A. Casler, Chaumont; James Buckley, Sand Bank; L. D. Ladd, Black River; A. S. Ormsby, Castorland; F. R. Maxon, Antwerp; Miss Lucy Ayers, Rice's; W. Finnegan, Pierrepont Manor; E. C. Maltby and Addison Barclay, this city, are also applicants for membership. J. J. Ingram is still chief operator at G. N. W., Ogdensburg, also superintendent of fire alarm. Mr. A. R. Parte has been advanced from inspector to Division Superintendent of the G. N. W. lines, territory extending from Ogdensburg to Rouse's Point and Plattsburgh on the east, and Oswego on the west. The office of the Superintendent of Construction having expired with the resignation of James Poustie, of Montreal, the business of that office comes under the superintendents of the various districts of the company. C. F. Fordham continues with the W. U., at Oswego; also Mr. Doyle, chief, and Thos. McKee, night man.

SYRACUSE NOTES—Benjamin Thompson, an old time operator at one time assistant chief operator at Toledo, Ohio, has been pronounced insane. Mr. Thompson has patented several electrical inventions. By over study he became a monomaniac on the subject of electricity. He had an idea that the electric light wires throughout the country were filling the air with electricity which was killing many people. He prepared to put a stop to that kind of work. He wrote letters to President Cleveland and Governor Hill requesting them to have all electric light wires taken down, threatening to shoot them, if they did not comply. He was arrested before the letters were posted. He has a wife and five children residing in the city. The new electric street railroad recently completed in this city, and now in successful operation, was built by Hiram McGonegal, an old time telegrapher. Mr. Charles Bahn was recently married to Miss Margaret Marrel. Mr. Bahn has been connected with the West Shore railroad in this city as operator for several years. The happy couple have the best wishes of a large circle of friends.

This is the way a Syracuse reporter worded a "query" to a New York City paper. "Fifteen cases of small-pox here. Do you want it? The General Term, in a recent decision in the case of Mowry and Barnes against the Western Union Telegraph company, appellant, finds the company liable for negligence by sustaining a judgment for \$249,05. On August 7th, 1885, plaintiffs filed a message with the Western Union ordering two cars of hams at quoted prices from Chicago. It seems the message was mislaid and was not sent until several days afterwards and then without the plaintiff's

knowledge. In the meantime the price of hams had advanced and the plaintiffs were compelled to pay \$225, more for the same goods. The defendants claim, the plaintiffs are entitled to but twenty-two cents paid for sending the message. The plaintiffs claim that the loss sustained by them was caused by the gross negligence of the defendant. The court so found.

J. H. Morse, of Hartsdale, N. Y., is teaching telegraphy to two little girls and four little boys, and J. Mertz, of Unionville, has three children in his office learning. These offices are on the Harlem R. R., which is noted for its superabundance of students.

When discussing "bulls," Titusville, Pa., wishes to be remembered with these specimens made on the press wire: Lafayette College, Pasipereyr Benson, should have read Lafayette College, Pa.; Percy Benson. Piefer Press, for Pioneer Press. Illineres Control, for Illinois Central. Liutch Runchau, for Deutsche Rundschau.

ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT.

The electric motor business is growing so rapidly that the facilities of all the shops are taxed to their utmost to supply the demand. Slush and sleet are the two evils of the electric railways, but science has completely overcome them.

A simple motor to furnish railroad cars with light would find a ready market.

A process of engraving on glass and crystal by electricity has been communicated to the French Academy by M. Plante.

The Edison Company has secured a favorable verdict from the Supreme Court against the United States Company. The latter were infringers on the former's patent, and the lower court sustained them, but on a technicality. The United States Supreme Court having reversed the decision, it has caused all large electrical concerns to thoroughly look into the present situation.

It is proposed to attempt the dissipation of fog by electrical discharges.

The new Westinghouse electric car will be ready for trial in about a week.

The Mexican Telegraph Company has arranged for a new cable across the Gulf.

The Batoum Petroleum tank steamers are fitted throughout with the electric light.

In a recent dense fog in England electric lights were much more successful than gas.

The Thomson-Houston Company is perfecting a 10,000 candle-power light for naval use.

The new Thomson-Houston cars have two 15 horse-power motors weighing 7,500 pounds each.

Low-class ores are being worked profitably by electrical appliances.

Parliament is to be urged to take steps for controlling the running of overhead wires in England.

Search lights are being fitted aboard many of the coasting steamers for river and harbor work.

The electric motors of the submarine boat Gymnote are said to be a marvel of lightness and precision.

There seems a very promising field for the alternating current in the new method of synchronous telegraphy.

The Chicago Electric Light Convention will be the largest and most important in the history of the association.

Estimates are being made with a view toward telephonic connection between life-saving stations on our coast.

In England experiments are being conducted to separate

solid from liquid matter in sewage by means of electricity.

A new English electric lamp for miners has two four-volt cells in the battery, and the weight complete is five pounds.

The West End Road in Boston has been so successfully run by electricity that they have decided to take off the horses.

It is believed that practical electricity is a subject to which the architect of the future will have to pay particular attention.

In the West, where they are running sleeping-cars lighted by electricity, there is an incandescent light in each section.

In Australia, for strategic and commercial reasons, they are particularly anxious for submarine cable connections with Canada.

It has been proposed to use an electric discharge to dissipate dust particles in flour and other mills, and so lessen the danger of explosion.

VIRGINIA NOTES.—The recent changes in the personnel of the various leading Virginia offices, which took place on January 15th last, was made the occasion of a very pleasing testimonial to Mr. W. A. Dabney, late manager at Lynchburg, on the eve of his departure to assume the more arduous duties of manager at Richmond. In behalf of his former office associates, Mr. Dabney was made the recipient of a handsome cane in a praiseworthy address by Mr. E. T. Krebbs. Mr. Dabney succeeded to the management at Lynchburg in 1880, on the retirement of Mr. E. C. McCleure, to accept the superintendency of the Southern Bell Telephone Company, at Richmond, a position which he still occupies. The force at Lynchburg, as recently reconstructed, is as follows. R. W. A. Horner, manager; E. T. Krebbs, chief operator; H. C. Snead, day quad. chief; W. J. Glenn, night chief; J. E. Echard, assistant night chief; W. M. Oakley, all-night chief, and a full complement of competent operators. Mr. C. F. Flynn, formerly press operator, at Lynchburg, has been appointed manager at Petersburg *vice* Mr. Walsh, who succeeds Mr. Flynn, at Lynchburg. Mr. W. C. Walstrum, formerly night chief at Richmond, has been appointed superintendent of the lines and offices of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, with head-quarters at Roanoke, Va.

Isn't the American Sabbath union somewhat inconsistent, asks the New York *Tribune*, when it demands the stoppage of all Sunday mails, but is willing that the telegraph offices should be kept open on that day? Is a telegraph operator of less value in the sight of the Sabbath Union than a railway employee or a post-office clerk?

COLUMBUS, OHIO.—Business at this point has increased considerably since the Legislature has been in session. A few changes have taken place since my last letter. The personnel of the office is as follows: Geo. Cole, manager; J. M. Zigler, chief clerk; and a number of clerks and assistants have charge of offices down stairs. Operating department, day force: Mr. L. M. Owings is chief; Mr. L. W. Boyer, assistant; operators, W. H. Jones, Ass'd Press; Miss Nellie M. Kelly, E. H. Ayers. C. Colwell, H. E. Rawson, W. C. Dunn, O. H. Newell, T. D. Rutherford, P. D. Rank, F. Wolford and F. C. Rubrecht, who has been placed on a "split trick." Tim Sullivan, who works Cincinnati local, must not be forgotten, as "Sully" is very popular, I therefore give him special mention. Night force: Mr. W. R. Cole is chief; operators, J. B. Martin, Assd. Press, first wire; F. H. Betz, second wire; F. T. Rutherford, C. M. Wilson, C. E. Dunham, A. Wolford and Seymour Standish. F. H. Betz left Feb. 1 for Zanesville. He was relieved by A. Wolford. Mr. Seymour Standish, of the night force, has become very popular here in Columbus, as well as in this State; he has invented a violin string which improves the tone of violins. He has demonstrated that with these strings

cheap violins can be made to produce a perfectly clear, sweet and deep tone, and doubles the volume of the violin. Mr. Standish's success is the result of many years of labor and experience with the violin, and he reaps a rich harvest as a reward. Mr. T. M. Harsh, of Zanesville, has been transferred to Charleston, W. Va., to assist in handling the newspaper work during the West Virginia Legislature.

O. R. T.—New York City Division of the O. R. T. was established in New York, January 20, by the election of the following officers: Chief telegrapher, Fred DeCamp; asst. chief telegrapher, Harry S. Thwaites; secretary and treasurer, R. B. Wynkoop; asst. secretary, J. D. Clark; senior telegrapher, J. P. Flannagan; junior telegrapher, C. J. Trochelman; inside sentinel, Hubert Reynolds; outside sentinel, J. Eggleston; past chief telegrapher, Daniel Driscoll; division correspondent, Charles A. Crouch. This division, which starts with nearly one hundred charter members, bids fair to become one of the largest in the Order. Its foundation is mostly due to Organizer W. R. Blackmond, of Philadelphia, who has been industriously proselyting in this vicinity for the past few months. Elevated railroad and commercial men are not eligible to membership.

AID SOCIETY AMENDMENTS.—In accordance with the requirements of the constitution, the undersigned hereby give notice that the following propositions to amend the Constitution and By-Laws of the Telegraphers' Aid Society will be submitted at the annual meeting in March:

1st. To amend Article 2 of the Constitution by adding Section 2; a secondary object shall be the receiving of contributions to be disbursed, in a business-like way, in relieving distress of worthy telegraphers, or their families, in time of sickness or death.

2d. To amend Article 4 of the Constitution by adding Section 4.

There shall also, for purposes in connection with section 2, article 2, be a Relief Committee of three members, who shall be appointed by and serve under the direction of the Executive Committee. The amendment is signed by over three hundred members.

This is certainly a move in the right direction, and the society should adopt the amendments. It very often happens that worthy men are debarred from participation in the benefits of the society by reason of disability, which is no fault of their own; consequently, however willing an operator may be when enjoying the very best health, to affiliate with his associates, he finds the door securely closed against his admission. When sickness overtakes him he is at once dependent upon charity, which, to say the least, does not reflect creditably upon our boasted liberal profession. We hope the fund to meet such emergencies will be liberally contributed to.

Judging by the great number of electrical books purchased of us by members of the telegraph profession in every section of the country, it is apparent that the future electrical experts are to be taken from the telegraph ranks.

JUST PUBLISHED—PRINCIPLES OF DYNAMO-ELECTRIC MACHINES, PRACTICAL DIRECTIONS FOR DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTING DYNAMOS, with an Appendix, containing several articles on allied subjects and a table of equivalents, by Carl Hering; cloth, 279 pages, 59 illustrations. Price, \$2.50. The above work, just published, is the first American book on Dynamos, and the reputation of the author as a clear, concise writer on the subject of which it treats, is sufficient guarantee of the character of its contents. American electricians have long felt the need of a work of this nature, written in plain and simple language by a man thoroughly familiar with all types of Generating Apparatus. The book is

copiously illustrated, printed on an extra good quality of paper, and neatly and substantially bound. The ten chapters are classified as follows: Review of electrical units and fundamental laws; fundamental principles of dynamos and motors; magnetism and electromagnetic induction; generation of electromotive force in dynamos; armatures; calculation of armatures; field magnet frames; field magnet coils; regulation of machines; examining machines. Copies promptly mailed to any address in the world, POSTAGE PREPAID, on receipt of price, \$2.50. Remit by Postal Note, Post-Office Order, Draft, Registered Letter or Express. Address J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey st., New York.

NEW CABLES.—It is reported that the English Government will recommend a subsidy to the International Cable Company, Sir William Armstrong, President. The company undertakes to lay a cable from Halifax, N. S., to Bermuda, and two from England to Halifax—one direct and the other *via* Lisbon.

The Bermuda cable will be extended to other West India islands, including the Bahamas, and will eventually be laid thence to Charleston, S. C.

The promise is given that cables will be laid during the coming season, and another is contemplated by the same company between New York and Halifax direct, landing at Coney Island, and giving the United States another and independent line of telegraphic communication with Europe.

There is an effort being made on the part of some railroads to change the title of "conductor" into that of "collector." If they are successful, we hope the telegraph companies will not usurp the title, "conductor," for the telegraphers. How would "John Smith, conductor of electricity, Hohokus circuit, Western Union Tel. Co., New York," sound?

When Mr. Court Cunningham read Mr. P. J. Tierney's story in the last issue of this paper, he expressed himself as follows: What! know Pat Tierney? Well, I'm durned. What! that little cuss who came out to Omaha in '72? Of course, I do. And he's now in the cable department, in New York? Well, well! that is news. Who'd ever 'spose he'd amount to anything so great? Why, when he first came to Omaha, direct from Brooklyn's Sixth Ward, he was the scarest-looking kid I ever saw. A couple of the boys met him at the depot at 1 A. M., and he was as hungry and forlorn as a coyote on a sand-bar. The Pawnee Indians were just moving from their Nebraska Reservation to the Indian Territory, and were congregated at the river-bank, thousands strong, preparatory to taking the boat down the Big Muddy. Of course, many of them were made hilarious at the change to be made, and also by the rum surreptitiously furnished by the boatmen. Pat had never seen an Injun before, and when they surrounded the car, begging, "*Please give Jim roc,*" etc., he dropped back into the smoker with a yell that scattered the reds and made our faces blanch. We finally persuaded him to come out of the car, but not without a great effort, and scooted him up to the ranch where we bunked. He was loth to retire, at first, but finally agreed to turn in, providing we remained with him, which we did. At about 3 A. M., we were roused up to a sitting position, by what we supposed to be a cyclone, but which really was nothing more or less than poor Pat rolling his trunk up against the door of the room, which contained a pair of 15-pound dumbbells, one shirt and a collar-box, and muttering, shiveringly, "They don't get me to-night, and I'll fly from this coop tomorrow, sure." Yes, Pat was a great boy, and I doubt if he has an enemy in the world, and I'm glad he's doing so well. He deserves it, for a more whole-souled and generous comrade has never been found.

ATLANTA NOTES.—Things are moving along about as usual since last advices from this place. The boys are all happy, and are getting fat off the good long breaths of fresh air which they are able to take in, in the new quarters. Having been deprived of that privilege for so long, they

appreciate the spacious room more especially in that particular. Recent departures are: Frank and Paul Wiggs, and George Harris back to Jacksonville; John Duval to Punta Rassa, Fla.; H. H. McConnel to agency for Georgia Pacific at Heflin, Ala.; James B. Dillon, who has been handling the Associated Press here for four months past, to Louisville, Ky., his old home. Recent arrivals: Wm. Terrell, Augusta, Ga.; C. L. Hall, Montgomery, Ala.; John Caldwell, who has been spending the fall in travelling as one of the "Most innocent men on the road," has again returned to telegraphing and is with us.

GLOUCESTER.—Situated on the coast of New England, some 30 miles east of Boston, lies what is known the world over as Fishtown, or Gloucester, Mass. Scarcely since the birth of the AGE has a roll of Gloucester telegraphers appeared in its bright and ever-interesting columns. Known as a heavy telegraphic town, nearly every company that has been created East have extended their lines to this point, and when one goes up, the public look expectantly forward to the arrival of another opposition (not to be bought up). Through these many companies, a number of operators have gone forth and are now scattered everywhere in the battle of life. But in looking over the schedule we find several old familiar faces that to leave us would appear as if some old landmark had been removed to make room for some new undertaking. The writer finds always at his post of duty H. W. Tarr, Manager of W. Union, assisted by Miss Gertie Bent, a most charming young lady and a hard worker. The W. U. handle the bulk of the telegraph business, but the force should be larger. George E. McDonald presides at the fish board. In the United Lines is John Favor, manager, Edward Savage, assistant, and Miss Perkins, clerk. At the Mutual Union, D. T. Hiltz acts as manager, and Geo. H. Warren operator. A glance into Friend's broker office brings to view Geo. M. Cronin, who is generally found "stacking the cards." T. J. Cummings, of the fraternity, has opened a broker's office, in Lynn, Mass. May his success be unlimited. Edward Parsons has charge of East Gloucester "W. U." A. E. Elliott, ticket agent and operator, at the B. & M. depot, has been with us several years, and by his genial and courteous manner has become a prime favorite with the boys and the general public. If any of the readers think of going fishing this summer, they had better come down, and we will walk the hurricane deck of our yacht together. Several of the boys attended the operator's ball, February 8th, at Boston.

The Chicago Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad proposes to light its cars by electricity.

The Anglo-American Cable Co's revenue has increased 77 per cent. since the increase in rates.

Electric prostration is the new medical term applied to those affected by work under strong electric light.

The Electric Light Convention which occurs in Chicago, February 19, 20 and 21, promises to be an interesting exhibition.

Ohio proposes to have electrical executions. That's more than New York can say with our law already on the statute books.

Mr. E. B. McClees has succeeded Mr. Clark B. Hotchkiss as General agent of Day's Kerite wires and cables. Mr. Hotchkiss retired from business on account of poor health January 1st.

An improvement has been introduced in the manufacture of battery jars from wood pulp which considerably increases their power of resisting the battery solutions while removing danger from leakage.

The Providence (R. I.) District Messenger Company has attached a number of poles and connecting wires, formerly owned by the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company in a suit for \$10,000 damages alleged to have been sustained by non-fulfillment of a contract by the said company.

PENNSYLVANIA R. R. NOTES.—Mr. C. F. Dilkes who has for a number of years been manager of the main office at Jersey City, has resigned to accept the managership of the electric light plant at New Brunswick, N. J. W. H. Tolson, assistant day manager, has been appointed his successor. W. W. Horn, the night manager, has been appointed assistant day manager. Mr. Horn is succeeded by A. A. Plant as night manager.

A Western Union lineman, when in the employ of a Brooklyn telephone company had occasion one day to ascend a pole on Clark street, near Hicks street. In casually looking into the windows of a house, he beheld a sight that held his attention. An elderly gentleman lay on a bed surrounded by the members of his family. It was evidently a death-bed scene. When the lineman descended, after completing his work, he ascertained that he had been witnessing the death of Henry Ward Beecher.

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THE ROE SUBSCRIPTION.

The generosity of telegraph operators in contributing, according to their means, is very pleasantly shown in the matter of helping out their fellow comrade, John Roe, now lying ill in the hospital at Binghamton. The money continues to flow in, and upward of \$100 have already been sent, through Mr. Herbert Y. Bresee, to Mr. Roe's family. As far as we have been able, up to the present time, to separate the names, they are given below. One of the hand-somest contributions received comes from Rochester. It amounts to \$35, and was secured through Miss Mary T. Macaulay, of The United Press. We shall publish the names of the individual contributors later on. Meantime, we say "three cheers for Miss Macaulay and the good fellows of Rochester."

Walter P. Phillips, New York, \$10, A. L. Suesman, Chicago, \$10, John H. Farrell, Albany, \$5, F. N. Bassett, A. S. Ayers, W. L. Waugh, M. F. Moore, J. P. Gardner, M. H. Crane, W. T. Loper, W. G. Jones, E. A. Sprong, W. M. Gibson, J. P. Bralt, C. H. H. Cottrell, F. J. Kihm, W. M. Spear, R. G. Morris, F. Anderson, R. W. Martin, New York, each \$2. M. D. Barnwell, E. C. Miller, New York, each \$1. W. C. Pearse, Philadelphia, \$3, C. L. Laverty, T. J. Clinger, W. H. C. Hargrave, E. C. Boileau, W. N. Gove, S. H. Jones, H. A. Wells, Philadelphia, each \$1. Orin Waddell, Cincinnati, \$2, M. J. McCaffery, G. Renner, G. B. Ashley, Geo. A. Duey, D. J. Duey, J. M. Duey, A. J. Herrmann, H. E. Jones, Cincinnati, each \$1. B. F. Lloyd, Walter P. Suesman, C. Sullivan, Chicago, each \$2. C. H. Johnson, E. H. Lucas, A. J. Morris, J. E. Sayers, Jr., R. J. Mullen, Wm. Roche, W. J. Kahle, Chicago, each \$1. A. W. Naylor, A. H. Cook, Wm.

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FIRST GRAND ANNUAL BALL.

Newark Division, No. 118, Order of Railway Telegraphers of North America, to be held at Central Hall, 838 Broad St., Newark, N. J., Thursday, February 28th, 1889.

The members of the telegraphic profession at large are cordially invited to be present. Newark Division of the O. R. T. is a most prosperous one and every member is heart and soul in the success of this initial reception. A large attendance is already assured. The orders of dance will be valuable souvenirs and will be much prized by every member of the O. R. T. who is fortunate enough to secure one,

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which can be done only, we presume; on entering the hall. M. Biddle, Thos. H. Hughes, Pittsburgh, each \$1. W. C. Higgins, Bradford, Pa., \$2. J. E. Markey, E. A. Higgins, Chas. P. McAllister, J. L. Barrett, F. F. Howe, W. E. Moss, J. E. Gallagher, Bradford, Pa., each \$1, Cash, Bradford, Pa., \$5.65. W. U. Operators, Lancaster, Pa., \$1. Total amount received, \$113.65.

Mr. Milton M. Smith, of Buffalo, N. Y., writes; "Thirteen years ago I found myself in Binghamton, N. Y., detained four hours waiting for a train. Though a stranger in that city, when I made known to Mr. Roe my situation he very cordially invited me to pass the time with him and after "30" he piloted me to my depot. I was better off financially then than I am now, but I send you two dollars to ease what is left of his time on earth. Please extend to him my sympathy and best wishes."

We have procured a reproduced copy of the group of the New York Western Union main office managers and chief operators, comprising some eighty people. The work is excellently executed and the group is worth possessing. Eleven by fourteen inches is the size of the photograph. We understand copies can be had by addressing E. E. Brannin or C. Meyer, 195 Bway., New York, for \$1.00 each, or with frame complete for \$2.00.

WANTED.—Wanted about March 1st, a room with privilege of bath, must be within 25 minutes ride on elevated or 25 minutes walk from W. U. office, near Broadway, and hall room preferred. Address, "73" night operator, ELECTRIC AGE office.

DIED.—John H. Young, manager of the W. U., Albuquerque, N. M., died February 2. Mr. Young was an old New Yorker. He is well remembered by the older members of the craft as a hard worker and a genial companion. His untimely demise is regretted by a large circle of acquaintances.

DIED.—Geo. L. Phillips, president of the Central Union and Chicago Telephone Companies, and director in half a dozen other companies, died of typhoid fever in Chicago, January 29th.

DIED.—J. C. Dolan, operator at Ramapo, N. Y., died of consumption January 23d, aged 21 years.

MARRIED.—In Brooklyn, N. Y., January 16th, at the residence of Mr. Lewis S. Day, brother-in-law of the bride, Ada Florence, daughter of James G. Walker, Esq., of Kingston, Ontario, to Charles A. Gill of Commercial Cable Co., N. Y.

MARRIED.—At Asheville, N. C., January 30th, Albert Fabel of Savannah, Ga., to Miss Adelaide B. Smith of Hingham, Mass., lately operator at Asheville.

POSTAL NOTES.—The following have been added to the waiting-list since our last record: A. E. Hughes, J. W. Mead, E. H. Hobart, R. W. Mossman and E. A. Hawley. Departures—Miss J. F. Duff, Miss E. Hinds.

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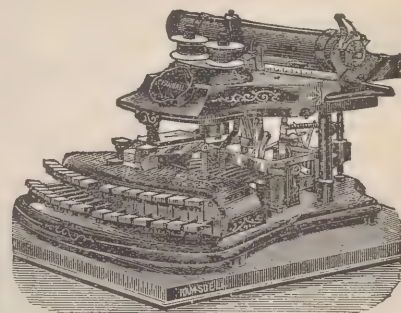
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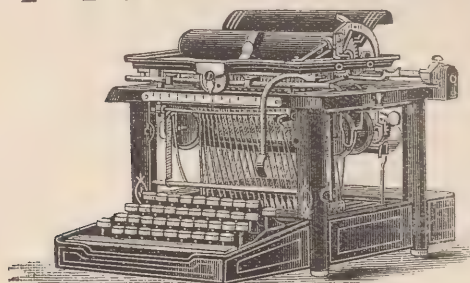


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 Yours, truly, W. A. MCALLISTER and A. J. BOOTH, Telegraph Staff.

SUN OFFICE, NEW YORK, Sept. 19th, 1887.

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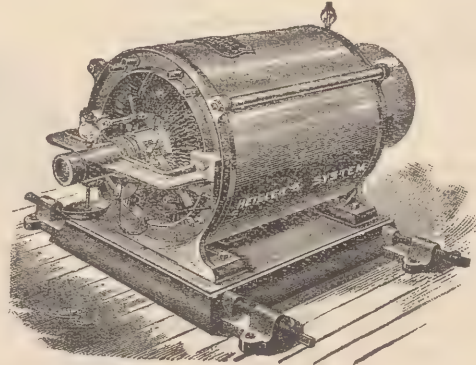
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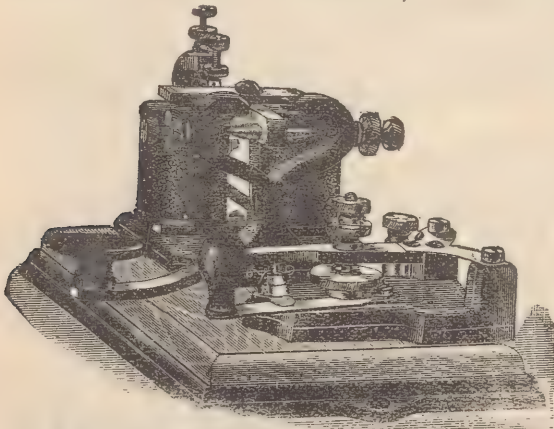


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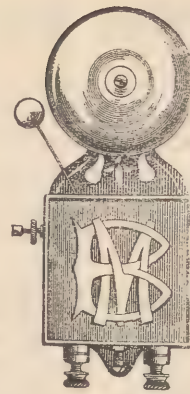
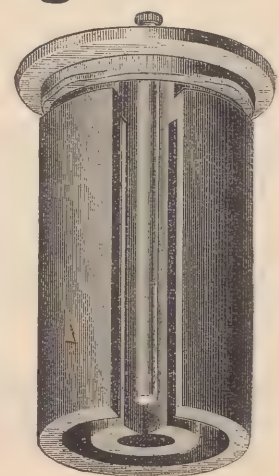
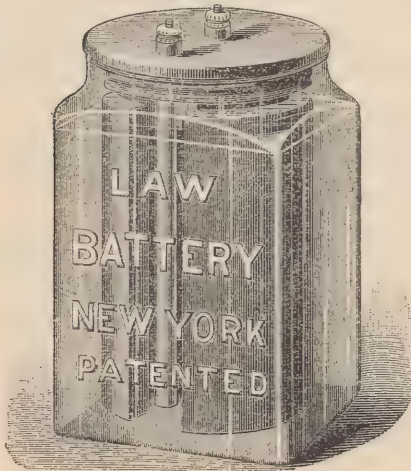
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VOL. VI—No. 19.

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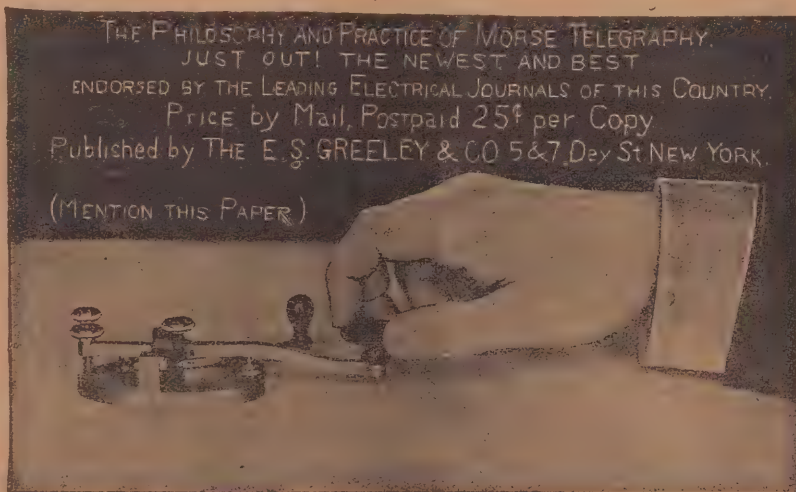
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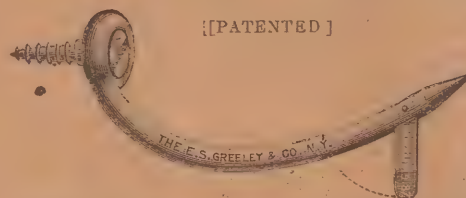


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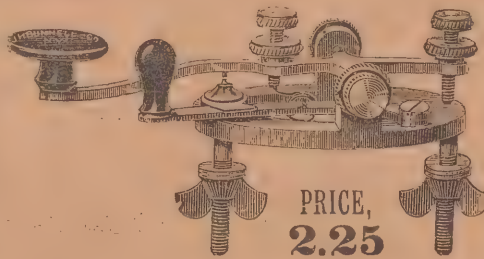
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It will also be noticed by Telegraphers, that since the STEEL LEVER KEY was introduced, a brood of "improved" keys has been hatched and put forward from various sources from time to time each one made to look as much like the



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.

LIBERAL DISCOUNT ON ORDERS FOR COMPANY SUPPLIES.

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.

Where exchanges of not less than Six Keys at one time are desired for Keys which are already in use and which cannot be spared until the new ones arrive, we will upon receipt of order, send on the new ones and the old ones may be sent to us afterwards. Cash should accompany all orders except from Superintendents and from Purchasing Agents of well known companies.

SEND FOR OUR NEW CATALOGUE No 10 OF MARCH, 1889.

J. H. BUNNELL & CO.,

106 and 108 Liberty Street,

NEW YORK.

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.

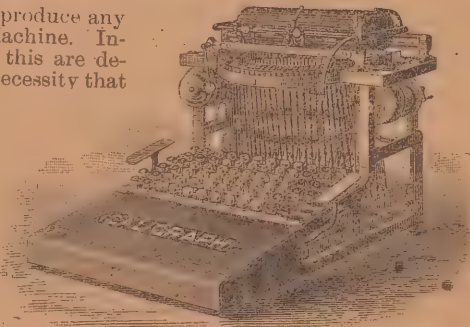
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New York Office, 237 Broadway,

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Remington Standard Typewriter.



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DAILY USE.

THE STANDARD OF THE WORLD.

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SPEED CONTESTS.

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

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.)

Pamphlet with portraits of Miss Orr, (champion) and McGurran, sent on application to

Wyckoff, Seamans & Benedict,

327 Broadway, New York.

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Entered as Second-class Mail Matter.

Registered Cable Address
"ELECTAGE" NEW YORK.

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One Copy, six months75
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No. 5 Dey St., New York.

H. I. JOLLEY, agent, 195 Broadway, New York.

W. J. ANDERSON, agent, 7 Wellington St. East, Toronto, Ont.

NEW YORK, MARCH 1, 1889.

In reviewing the conditions of the enormous telegraphic system spread over the world, it is worthy of remark says the *Electrical Review*, of London, that so few interruptions have occurred on the most important submarine cables. With the exception of the Brest-St. Pierre cable, laid in 1869, no one of the principle cables has broken down during 1888. Even the minor cables, generally following coast lines, have not suffered interruption to any very considerable extent, and it is remarkable how speedily in the majority of instances, the repairs have been effected.

Very little addition during the year 1888 has been made to the telegraph system in general, the work executed in the preceding four years having apparently, so far as regards submarine cables, been in advance of actual requirements. In this particular branch, the only additions have been the cables between Cuba, Hayti, Santo Domingo, Curacao, and Venezuela.

The result of the lowering of rates brought about by the Berlin conference is satisfactory as regards increase of messages. There appears to be an augmentation of about 20 per cent, divided more or less equally between internal and international correspondence.

The two Atlantic cables owned by the Western Union Company, which since 1882 had been retained for English traffic exclusively, were during the past year opened to the general telegraphic service.

The Indo-European line, which crosses the whole of Europe and a portion of Asia, certainly not less than 6,200 miles in length, was only interrupted once during 1888 and then for two days.

The number of States which have signified their adherence to the Telegraphic Union amounts to 40. The Argentine Republic will be shortly included among them.

When the first electric telegraph was established, the speed of transmission was from four to five words a minute,

with the five needle instruments. In 1849, the average rate for newspaper messages was seventeen words a minute. The present pace of the electric telegraph between London and Dublin, where the Wheatstone repeater is employed, is 463 words; and thus what was regarded as miraculous sixty years ago has multiplied a hundred fold in half a century.

No sooner does a man patent an invention than up jumps a few individuals who claim priority. Men have for years studied how to rob Professor Morse of his laurels, but the one obstacle is to obliterate from the Congressional records the appropriation to Morse of \$30,000 to build the first line between Washington and Baltimore.

The statement in issue of February 16, announcing that elevated railroad operators were ineligible to membership in the Order of Railroad Telegraphers, is erroneous. The clause which prevented their admission to the Order was stricken from the constitution some time ago.

Mr. J. D. Clark, who was manager of the American District Telegraph system, Columbus, Ohio, has resigned and left for New York City, to assume the superintendency of the fire alarm system in that city. Mr. Clark was with the B. & O. Tel. Co., Chicago, until the consolidation. A host of friends rejoice at his success.

THE BELL-HANGER'S HAND-BOOK, by F. B. Badt, will be found a very useful and practical book for not only amateurs, but should be secured by all electricians who are installing domestic electrical appliances. Price, \$1. Address J. B. Taltavall, 5 Dey street, New York.

"A decision was last week handed down by the Appeal Court, in London, upholding the electric light patents of Edison and Swan against the Holland and Anglo-American Brush patents, thus reversing the decision of the lower Court."

The South Florida Telegraph Company has made a reduction in rates to all important points. The Western Union has also reduced its rates in the State about 20 per cent. to important stations.

Chicago has the distinction of having the most complete underground system in this country, if not in the world.

Electric motors will eventually replace the locomotives on the elevated railroads.

The modification of Faure's invention patented to Anthony Reckenzaun sometime since has probably passed out of the mind of most of our readers. Mr. Reckenzaun's process consisted in rendering lead plastic by heat then placing it in a mould; cylindrical pencils of oxide of lead previously moulded are then arranged upon the surface of the plastic metal and forced into position by slight pressure. In every limited sense this might be called novel, but William Anthony Shaw who will be recalled as a competitor of Faure's in the U. S. Patent Office in 1880 or 1881, when both were claiming the broad invention for which Faure received a patent, has had an application pending in the U. S. Patent Office since early in the year 1882. This has been prosecuted through two or more interference proceedings and Mr. Shaw has finally been awarded priority. Shaw combined active material with lead rendered plastic by heat, and his claims are commensurate with his invention. The fourth claim of his patent No. 397, 443, issued February 5, 1889, reads; "The method of making electrodes for secondary batteries, by melting or softening by heat a suitable metal or metallic compound combining active material therewith, and allowing the mass to harden." It will be noticed that this claim covers Mr. Reckenzaun's modification and renders it subsidiary according to well established practice; and in assigning credit for the improvements now so rapidly being made in this art Shaw's hitherto unappreciated but modest labors must be now acknowledged.

A SKETCH OF THE HISTORY, DEVELOPMENT
AND PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS OF THE
ELECTRICAL CONDENSER.

BY WM. MAVER, JR.

From *The Electrical Engineer, New York.*

PART I.

It can safely be said, I think, that while there may be instruments of more importance in the applications of electricity than the condenser, there is none which has more varied and interesting uses in practical as well as experimental work than that instrument.

This was particularly brought to my attention during researches into the history of the condenser and its applications in telegraphy in connection with an important patent suit brought a few years ago by the Western Union Telegraph Company against the Baltimore and Ohio Telegraph Company, to restrain the latter company from using the condenser as a "static compensator" in duplex telegraphy.

A number of items concerning the history and applications of the condenser I noted at the time for future reference, and while I do not pretend that, as elaborated in this article, those notes will exhaust the subject, yet I venture to hope that they may be read with more or less interest by some whose duties or studies have not made them acquainted with the history and various applications of the condenser.

It will be apparent, from a comparison of the following quotations and illustrations from the works of prominent writers on electrical subjects at different periods, that the apparatus generally known to-day as the condenser is quite a different instrument, both as regards its form and function, from that to which the same name was originally applied.

Clark and Sabine's *Electrical Tables and Formulæ*, 1871.—"Accumulators, or as they are commonly called, condensers, are used for comparing the electrostatic capacities of cables, the electromotive force of batteries, for joint testing, and for preventing earth currents in submerged cables."

Preece and Sivewright's *Telegraphy*, 1876.—"A condenser or accumulator is a term applied to an apparatus composed of alternate layers of tin-foil, and paraffined paper (or mica) so arranged as to form a flat Leyden jar of large surface, and constructed to give us whatever capacity we require."

Kempe's *Electrical Testing*, 1887.—"A condenser is merely a Leyden jar exposing a large surface within a small space."

Stewart and Gee, *Electricity and Magnetism*, 1887.—"A condenser for the purpose of this chapter may be considered as consisting of sheets of an insulating material, arranged alternately with sheets of a conducting material, &c."

S. P. Thompson's *Electricity and Magnetism*, 1881.—"Their general form (microfarad condensers) is shown in figure 1, which represents a $\frac{1}{3}$ microfarad condenser."

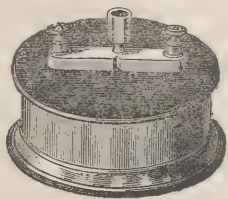


Fig. 1.

Prescott's *Electricity and the Electric Telegraph*, 1888.—"The condenser is an apparatus by means of which a large quantity of electricity can be gathered on a small surface."

Cavallo, in his *Philosophy*, 1803, thus describes a condenser and its action: "If there be a source of electricity which, when communicated to an electrometer, is too weak to affect it, let an ample insulated plate communicate with the body which furnishes the weak electricity, and the plate so situated will acquire a considerable quantity which, whilst

this plate is opposed to the other, will not effect the electrometer; but if afterwards the receiving plate be removed from the vicinity of the other plate, its capacity for containing electricity will be diminished, and of course the absorbed electricity will appear much stronger upon its surface," etc. Such a receiving plate was called a *condenser* by Volta." Dr. Lardner observes concerning the condenser: "In the estimation of small quantities of electricity it is analogous to the microscope in the examination of visible objects, and it stands in the same relation to the electroscope as the compound microscope holds to the micrometer screw and vernier in astronomical instruments."

Noad's *Manual of Electricity*, 1855.—part i., p. 61—Referring to condensers.—"instruments contrived for the purpose of rendering evident very minute traces of electricity."

Sir Wm. Snow Harris, *Frictional Electricity*, 1867, p. 90.—"The object of the condenser is to render sensible to the electroscope minute quantities of electricity, which, without its aid, would be inappreciable."

The original condenser as used by Volta was constructed as represented in figure 2, and is thus described in Noad's *Manual of Electricity*, 1855. "It consists of two circular metallic discs, the surfaces of which were covered with a thin and uniform coating of amber varnish; the lower disc B was supported on a metallic stand D, the upper disc, A, called the collector, was provided with an insulating handle, C, and a short wire terminating in a metallic ball, E. The body, the electricity of which was to be investigated, was brought into contact with E, the electricity thus communicated to A acting by induction, through the thin non-conductor on B, confined the electricity; of the opposite kind repelling its similar electricity at the same time B, being in perfect electrical communication with the earth, had a constant supply of neutral electricity conveyed

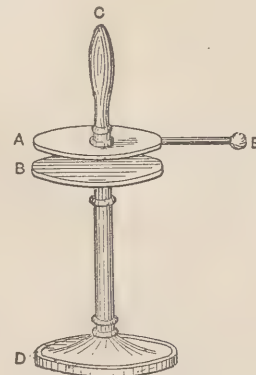


Fig. 2.

to it which in its turn underwent a similar decomposition. This process lasted until the *condenser* had received the full charge answering to its surface. The collector A being suddenly raised by its glass handle, taking care to keep it parallel to its base, the electricity accumulated upon it could be transferred to an electroscope for examination."

It was usual, however, to attach the condenser directly to the gold leaf electroscope, as in figure 3. In this case one of the plates of the condenser is mounted on a joint that is movable at the bottom so that it may be moved to and away from the other as shown in the figure. "By the induction of electricity on the surface of the movable disc several times and by its reaction on the electrometer (electroscope) an accumulation of the electric force is affected by which means the presence of otherwise inappreciable small quantities of electricity is detected."

The Franklin plates as described in Franklin's letters, and alluded to by Priestly as a modified Leyden jar, in the quotation below, constitute perhaps the earliest description of an instrument to which the modern condenser most nearly corresponds.

"Dr. Franklin constructed an electric battery consisting of 11 panes of large sash glass coated on each side and so connected that charging one of them would charge them all. Then having a contrivance to bring the giving sides in contact with one wire, and all the receiving sides with another, he united the force of all the plates and discharged them all at once."

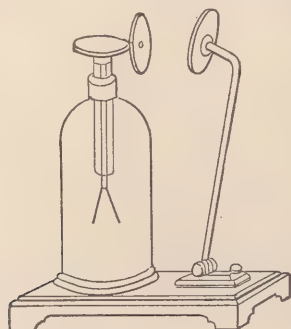


Fig. 3.

Akin to this also is the Franklin "pane," shown in figure 4, which consisted of a pane of glass coated on both sides and supplied with suitable connections for charging and discharging.

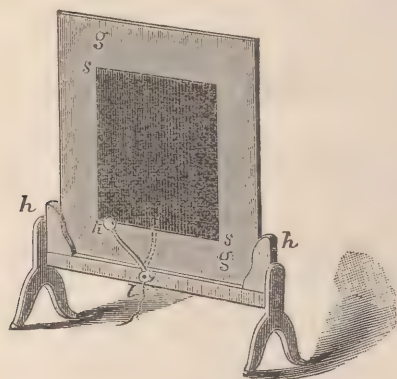


Fig. 4.

The invention of the electrical condenser as defined by Cavallo, Noad and Harris, is attributed by Noad, Bakewell, S. P. Thompson, and others, to Aepinus or to Aepinus and Wilcke. But Noad credits Volta with having brought it into the service of electrical science.

(To be Continued.)

NATIONAL ELECTRIC LIGHT ASSOCIATION.—The ninth convention of the National Electric Light Association convened in Chicago on February 19. The various official reports were satisfactory and showed the association to be in a prosperous condition. The Committee on Patent Legislation presented a favorable report. The Committee on Insulation was discharged. A Committee to Revise the Constitution was appointed. Many important papers were read and discussed.

THE ROE SUBSCRIPTION.

The telegraphers are rapidly demonstrating that their hearts are in the right place, as shown by the generosity they are displaying in the matter of the Roe subscription. The money keeps flowing in, and though it is not like the golden stream of Pactolus, it is a stream of dollars all the same, which is carrying relief and happiness to a good fellow in sore distress and to the interesting little family which is dependent on him. The account, as far as we have been able up to this time to separate the names and amounts, is as follows:

Previously acknowledged, \$113.65.

The new subscribers are:

A Bridgeport friend, \$2; W. H. Allen, Washington, \$1; a Cincinnati friend, \$1; T. W. O'Brien, Washington, \$1; J. H. Miller, Saratoga, \$2; Cash from Saratoga, \$2; E. B. Peters, Auburn, \$2; Geo. E. Reilly, Harrisburg, \$1; R. C. Laverty, Camden, N. J., \$1; S. B. Gifford, J. E. Bierhardt, F. W. Lake and J. F. Kerrins, of Syracuse, N. Y., \$2 each; A. W. Skeele and W. A. Armstrong, of Syracuse, \$1 each; W. R. Jillson, W. J. Guilford, D. M. Bowers, S. H. Riker, F. H. Barth, L. S. Haas, A. V. Wheatly, J. B. Ecker, E. T. Pardee, F. C. Gilbert, W. S. Cummings, E. L. Griffith, A. E. Matthews, and W. P. Dowling, of Syracuse, 50 cents each; E. E. Hetzel, Zanesville, O.; A. R. Hale, Mansfield, Ohio; H. H. Zigler, Columbus, O.; J. E. Stockmeyer, Dayton, O., C. R. Mounce, Louisville, Ky., \$1 each; John Mitchell, Auburn, N. Y.; J. S. Carnachan, Louisville, Ky.; Milton M. Smith, Buffalo, \$2 each; Cash from Auburn, N. Y., \$8; Cash from Louisville, \$1; H. H. Fry, York, Pa., 50c.; P. V. DeGraw, W. F. O'Brien and G. G. Bain, Washington, D. C., \$2 each; C. E. Potter, John Boyle, J. B. Austin, W. W. Burhans, H. S. Wright and J. A. Ryan, Washington, D. C., \$1 each; J. D. Thurston, D. R. Burhans, D. T. Hahn and E. L. Bugbee, Washington, D. C., 50 cents each; T. E. Maddox, Washington, 25 cents; John J. Corrigan, Cleveland, O., A. E. Chantler, St. Paul, Minn.; M. D. Shaw, St. Louis; O. D. Richardson, Evansville, Ind., and W. H. Janes, Indianapolis, \$2 each; C. D. Sprague and Emma Martin, Tiffin, Ohio; J. H. Schwerzgen, Ft. Wayne, Ind.; W. M. Guthrie, Cleveland; Chas. Crall, Fort Wayne; E. M. Williams, Toledo; C. J. Seefred and F. E. Carter, Detroit; E. J. Hart, Duluth, Minn.; H. A. Wilson, G. M. Hewes, Eugene Coffin, L. R. Robertson and J. A. Hasty, Minneapolis, Minn.; C. F. Holden, A. W. Billings, M. Garges and J. Gibbon, St. Paul, Minn.; A. P. Velie, Milwaukee, Wis.; G. W. Castle, Peoria, Ill.; W. O. Tremaine, St. Louis; F. E. Fleming and J. W. Thompson, Nashville, Tenn., and E. H. Lee, Milwaukee, Wis., \$1 each; Adam Barstecher, 50 cents; E. B. Saylor and George Merrihew, Philadelphia, \$1 each; Cash from Philadelphia, \$4.50; Anna G. Dean, Galena, Ill.; R. B. Norris, Walhalla, S. C.; Anthony Bucek, Boston, S. P. Ayres, Cleveland, \$1 each; H. G. Breese, J. H. Arnett, F. W. Goulden, John Costello, Binghamton, N. Y.; \$2 each; F. H. Lynch, S. L. Lake, John Billings, F. H. McFarland, Dr. S. F. McFarland, H. H. Pfeiffer, C. W. Getcher, W. E. Dickerson, W. J. Garvey, Binghamton, N. Y., \$1 each; L. M. Kelly, A. C. Fox, John Sullivan, J. W. Hanan, Jos. Schnell and Robert Boyle, Binghamton, N. Y., 50 cents each. Total, \$243.40.

FOUNTAIN AND STYLO PENS. Fountain Pens, \$1.50 and upwards



The FOUNTAIN PEN consists of a highly finished hard rubber holder, fitted with superior 14-kt. GOLD PEN to suit any writer. **"INDEPENDENT" STYLOGRAPHIC PEN.** PRICE, \$1.00 AND UPWARD. EVERY PEN WARRANTED. Writes as smoothly as a Lead Pencil and is ALWAYS READY FOR USE. **J. ULLRICH & CO., 106 and 108 Liberty St., New York.**

A PECULIAR TELEGRAPH ERROR.

It is the opinion of many officials that telegraph errors are more frequent to-day than in former years. The fact that the business has multiplied in ten years appears to have been entirely overlooked by these critics. They imagine that the same volume of business is handled in telegraph offices now as during the time they were "at the key, or at the switchboard." When once out of the operating department, one is very apt to lose sight of the gradual increase in the daily volume of business handled. The rapid development of telegraphy has no doubt called to the instruments many inefficient operators, but take the business as a whole, the errors of to-day are no more numerous than in previous years. Moreover, it may be said with equal emphasis, that the means of regarding the amusing errors through our and other columns have always been encouraged, which would naturally result in the officials keeping posted on the ludicrous blunders to which the Morse alphabet is susceptible. When we, therefore, dress an error in a novel uniform it is not to illustrate the deterioration of the service, but to amuse our readers. We would not be guilty of forcing upon the patience of our readers such chestnuts as "Come home, Sam is not 100," or "Gill & Pie," and a hundred similar absurd mistakes which we see recorded occasionally in contemporaries, as though the profession had never heard of them before.

Divorce proceedings a few weeks ago aptly illustrated the pliability of the Morse telegraph code as interpreted by a certain New York operator. Other members of the craft have at various times innocently varied the monotony of Father Morse's original intention, but our New York friend has capped the climax for serious consequences to a trifling misinterpretation of a few dots and dashes.

A well-known society gentleman had occasion not very long ago to spend the entire night at the "club," and on the following morning repaired to business at the usual hour but without first visiting his accustomed breakfast-table.

During the day the gentleman resolved to make fitting amend for neglecting his home the night previous, and it was with the best possible intentions that during noon-hour he telegraphed to his darling wife as follows: "Be prepared to see the Old Homestead to-night."

The "Old Homestead" is a play carefully constructed to exemplify a cheerful and comfortable country home, and a play which has proven extremely popular, especially with the female portion of the metropolis, as is evidenced by the fact that crowded houses have greeted each performance for a year.

Mischief lurked in the winding of one of the old repeating relays in the main or in one of the branch offices, while the transmission of this loving and sincere message was in progress.

When the sender of the message reached the door of his home that evening, with a light heart and cheery smile, he was refused admission.

Nonplussed by the behavior of his wife and servants, he was compelled, without explanation, to seek a neighboring hotel and await developments.

There were two vacant reserved seats at the Academy of Music that night, and a telegraph operator happy, to all appearances, in the consciousness of having done a hard day's work for a grasping monopoly for \$1.65 for 11 hours work.

On the second following day the sender of the telegram was served with separation papers, and for the first time he had an opportunity to learn through his wife's counsel the nature of the grounds upon which the charges rested.

The lawyer said his fair client did not so much object to his entertaining customers at the "club," but she never would, under any circumstances, submit to being ridiculed in telegraph communications. The husband at this juncture expostulated, saying he had no doubt been the victim of some vile practical joker.

"No joke about it," replied the lawyer, drawing from a pigeon-hole in a large safe the telegram as received. It read: "Be prepared to see the old hog stand to-night."

When the judge, a few days later, reached the case, kind words were whispered in his ear, and it was scratched from the calendar.

The two hearts still fondly beat as one, but the husband is steadfast in his opinion, that it is dangerous to telegraph after visiting the "club."

LINEMEN ASK FOR REDRESS.—On February 20, the following letter was forwarded to the chief magistrate of this city:

NEW YORK, February 19, 1889.

HON. H. J. GRANT, Mayor:

Dear Sir—We, the undersigned, members of the Linemen's Union of the City of New York and vicinity, do hereby request your Honor to rescind the action you have taken against us in reference to electric wires, as it is depriving from five to six hundred linemen and their families of their daily bread. From practical knowledge, we say there is yet no system perfect for working the electric system under ground.

Respectfully yours,

J. B. WILLIS, Chairman.

On February 18, Mayor Grant issued an order forbidding the erection or repairing of any telegraph or other wires in the city. As a consequence, all companies were compelled to lay off their linemen. The Mayor says the wires must now go under ground. The companies are making no efforts in that direction as yet.

Mayor Grant in reply to the linemen's petition says the requirements of the statute have been followed, and no other course was open to the Board. The order will not, therefore, be rescinded.

During the Electric Light Convention, last week, in Chicago, the *Western Electrician* was produced daily. The advertising pages were bordered with red lines, and the general appearance of the paper denoted enterprise and prosperity.

The Panama Railroad Co. has reduced its force of operators on the Isthmus of Panama, and several members of the craft have therefore returned to New York.

PHILADELPHIA AID SOCIETY.—At the first annual meeting of this society the following was the exhibit:

No. of Members (Charter) on Organization.....	174
“ “ Enrolled.....	201
“ “ Suspended.....	46
“ “ Non-Beneficial.....	20
“ “ In Good-standing.....	135
“ of Weeks' Sickness.....	9 6-7
“ Death Claims.....	1
Receipts for the year.....	\$834 97
Expenses “ “.....	189 15
Amount on hand.....	645 82

The objects of the society are to provide for its members in case of sickness or death; dues, 50c. per month; sick benefits, \$7 per week; death benefit, \$50; age, 18 to 50 years, and residence in Philadelphia; initiation fee, \$1. W. E. Van Arsdall, W. U. T. Co., is the Secretary.

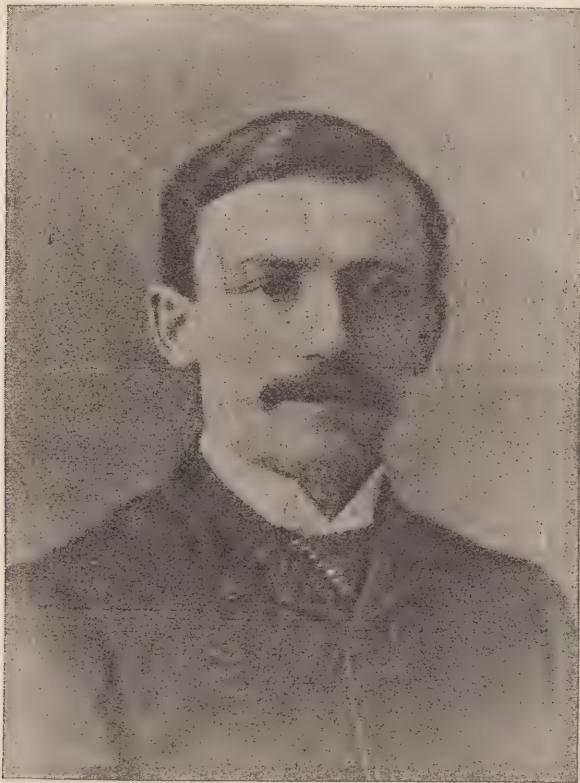
GEORGE SIMON OHM.—In view of the near approach of the one hundredth anniversary of the birth of George Simon Ohm, which took place on March 16, 1789, a meeting was held recently in the meeting room of the Royal Society, London, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Rayleigh, secretary of the Royal Society, for the purpose of appointing a committee to co-operate with the committee formed in Germany to promote the erection in Munich of a statue of the great physicist, to whom the science of acoustics owes no less than does that of electricity.

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCHES.

CHARLES R. HOSMER, Manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's System of Railway and Commercial Telegraphs.

Charles Rudolph Hosmer, whose engraving appears herewith, was born at Coteau Landing, Que., in November, 1851. At this place he received his education. In 1865 he learned telegraphy at the Grand Trunk Railway Station, and received his first office the year following.

Mr. Hosmer engaged with the Montreal Telegraph Company at Kingston, Ont., in 1869, and was appointed manager of the Dominion Telegraph office at the same point in 1870. Two years later he occupied a similar position at Buffalo, N. Y., for the same company, which he held for two years, when in the Fall of 1873 he was appointed Superintendent of the Eastern Division of the Dominion Telegraph Company, with headquarters at Montreal. This position he held until 1881, when the consolidation with the Montreal Company was consummated.



CHARLES R. HOSMER.

When organized, Mr. Hosmer became president and general manager of the Canadian Mutual Telegraph Company, which position he held until January 1, 1886, when he assumed his present position—manager of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company's extensive system of railway and commercial telegraphs. Mr. Hosmer is also general manager of the Pacific Postal Telegraph Company, whose lines connect with the C. P. R. in British Columbia and run through the States of Washington, Oregon and California.

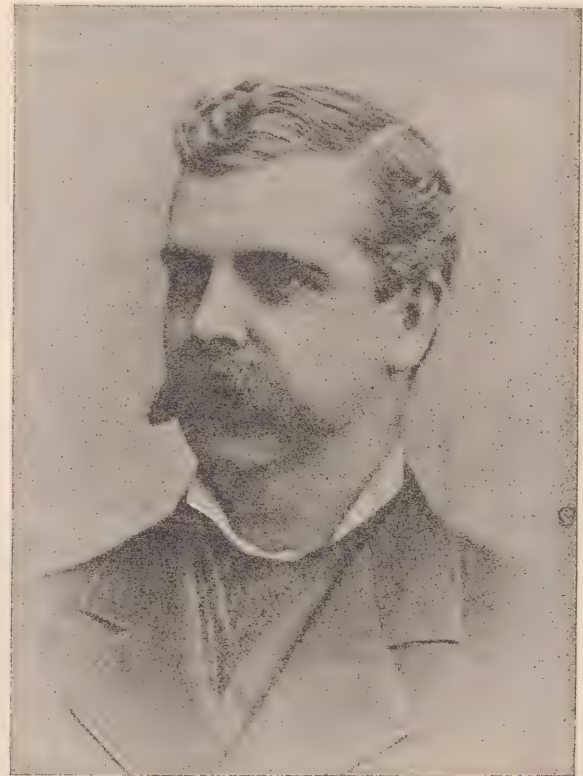
Although but about 37 years of age, Mr. Hosmer has certainly earned for himself a reputation for executive ability and efficiency equalled by few and surpassed by none occupying positions of equal rank.

JAMES E. PETTIT.

James E. Pettit, chief operator of the Postal, Chicago, Ills., was born in 1842, at Perry, Wyoming County, N. Y. At an early age he embraced the fascinating art of telegraphy,

in later years he manifested such deep interest in the mystery of mysteries, that with assiduous application and study, has placed him in the foremost ranks of electricians and is the conceded authority on electrical matters in the west.

With the breaking out of the Rebellion he enlisted as a soldier, and as such participated in the battle of Falling Waters, Va., and was present at the siege of Vicksburg. He had however previously been detailed into the United States Military Corps, and while in that branch of the same, was captured by the noted rebel General Forrester, was imprisoned at Cahawla, Ala., where he was taken sick and placed in a ward with eleven others, all of whom excepting Mr. Pettit died. Later he was sent to the parole camp for exchange, but instead of being released, he was stationed at the rebel headquarters of exchange. This while the war was in full blast it may be interesting to add, and doubtless an isolated fact, that by mutual consent, confederate and union headquarters were combined together, and both telegraph offices worked by union operators. Mr. Pettit still suffering from his recent illness, worked in a hammock, and from exposure a relapse resulted, which, while nearly proving fatal, saved



JAMES E. PETTIT.

his life, for it prevented him going north with nearly two thousand exchanged prisoners, on the steamer Sultana, which was blown up while enroute, with a loss of life of more than one-half her passengers.

After the war was over Mr. Pettit was made manager of Augusta, Ga.

He first came to Chicago in 1866, entered the services of the Western Union, was shortly promoted to the position of chief operator, and subsequently to that of assistant manager, resigning in the spring of 1882 to accept the management of Mutual Union, which he retained until the company was "merged." Soon afterwards he accepted the position he so ably fills with the Postal. Mr. Pettit is of a retired disposition, unobtrusive and reticent nature, kind and sympathetic to a fault. Mr. Pettit is Secretary of the U. S. Military Telegraphers and commands the respect of all who have ever met him.

TELEGRAPHERS DRAMATIC ENTERTAINMENT AND RECEPTION.

The telegraphers of New York and Brooklyn gave their second dramatic entertainment and reception of the season at Turn Hall, New York, on Tuesday evening. The spacious hall was crowded almost to suffocation, the audience being the largest one at any entertainment ever given by the craft. It was a most thoroughly successful and enjoyable affair. A number of Brooklyn amateur actors, among them Miss Ada Forrester, Miss Agnes Rose Lane, Miss Lena Knodell and Mr. J. J. Breen were in the cast of the drama, and their efforts were much appreciated. The entertainment opened with an original skit written by Mr. M. J. Dixon, entitled "Dots and Dashes," exposing the swindling methods of the telegraph schools. The different characters were interpreted by A. F. Louer, Frank Melrose, J. J. Daly, T. J. Kinsella, Frank Harding, A. Cutaire, George Finn, M. J. Dixon, Miss Agnes Rose Lane, Miss Nettie Deyer, Miss Jennie Powell, Mr. Frank Collins. The farce proved a most amusing one, Mr. Louer as a countryman, Mr. Kinsella as a wonderful Irishman of the Pat Rooney type, Mr. Daley as a chappie and Miss Lane as a society lady being particularly successful. Mr. Morton Baker's two act drama, "Above the Clouds," followed the skit with the following cast:

- Phil Ringold.....Eugene V. Adamson.
- Alfred Thorpe.....M. Loraine.
- Amos Gaylord.....J. W. Doyle.
- Howard Gaylord.....T. C. Vancura.
- Titus Turtle.....A. C. Kranshaar.
- Curtis Chilmon.....C. H. Byington.
- Nat Taylor.....J. J. Breen.
- Grace Ingalls.....Miss Lena Knodell.
- Hester Thorne.....Miss Ida Forrester.
- Susy Gaylord.....Miss Emily Millan.
- Lucretia Gerrish.....Miss Margaret Flinn.

The performance was much above the average, Mr. Adamson, formerly of "The Dark Secret" company; Mr. Breen, Mr. Vancura, Miss Knodell, Miss Flinn, Miss Forrester and Miss Emily Millan handling their respective characters with much skill. Mr. J. J. Mahoney and Mr. F. T. Myers gave recitations between the acts. The floor was then cleared for dancing and Mr. and Mrs. John King led 200 couple in the grand march. Twenty selections were rendered by Professor Lovell's orchestra and the dispensers of lightning proved themselves as nimble with their feet as they are with their hands in their profession. Among those present were: Mr. F. J. King, Mr. and Mrs. H. Wright, William Spear, Miss Mamie Spear, M. F. Moore, J. J. Breen, J. J. Daly, Mrs. Julia Rourke, T. J. Kinsella, Miss Sara Payne, and Mrs. E. Collins, Miss Mamie Dougherty, Miss Katie Dougherty, Mr. and Mrs. George Blood, J. J. Tuck, Miss N. Tuck, George Levine, J. Dwight, C. M. Stevenson, Miss Susie Stevenson, Harry Moody, Samuel Ford, C. Brooks, John Brant, William Quinn, Miss Emily Millan, Miss Jessie Robinson, J. B. Fagin, Lant Jones, Albert Henning, George Gordan, Jr., Charles McCarthy, Richard Spillane, Miss Nora Brown, Charles Minier, C. McDonald, Miss Lily Devalie, Fredrick A. Crum, Miss Rose Uth, John Gibbons, Miss Katie Burke, William Walsh, Miss Jessie Dyer, E. F. Stevens, William Newinan, Miss Bertha Soaden, Paul Freyer, Mr. and Mrs. Albert Loraine, J. F. McGuire, Miss Katie Soaden, W. J. Googan, Mr. William Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Fair, Mrs. E. F. Kirby, Mr. Arthur Gardener, Mr. Frank McKiernan, Mr. Chas. Byington, Mr. J. Dougherty, Mr. Frank Hinds, Miss Lizzie Hunter, Captain John Earl, Mr. Chas. Boyd, Wm. Wall, Mr. W. H. Brahe, Mr. S. B. Quinn, J. B. Taltavall, E. Blakeney, Mr. George Holbrook, Walter Holbrook, E. Delaney, J. F. Doyle, E. F. Duffy, T. J. Connolly, M. Morgan, John E. Cusick, A. Lemaire, F. Fauerbach, E. H. Lane, J. J. Mahoney, George Ford, Mr. O. Gubner, Miss Laura Sheridan, Mr. J. M. Morgan, W. H. Board, D. S. Morgan, William

Ives, Miss Annie Ives, Mr. and Mrs. Louis G. Camp, Miss Rose Davis, Miss Stella Hearn, John Baker, Miss Jennie Powell, Miss Jennie Smith, J. M. Wynkoop, W. B. Bray, J. Harrington, J. J. Nealis, Frank Harding, John Breen, Miss Lillie Cushing, Miss Rose Lane, James Robinson, Frank English, Miss Vennie Ohlandt, Miss Lillie Tuck, J. B. Alexander, Miss Sadie Leland, Miss Annie Leland, P. Hutchinson, Miss Emma Finn, J. F. Finn, Mr. Thomas Hanlon, Miss Jessie O'Neil, W. J. Magowan, the Brooklyn superintendent; Mrs. Magowan, F. N. Bird, Miss W. Drigg, J. S. Morgan, Miss Mamie Burke, Martin Burke, Miss A. E. Joyce, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hill, Mr. J. H. Brown, Miss J. Brown, Mr. A. Carey, Miss Alice Robinson, and Miss H. E. Collins, Mr. Chas. J. Fallow, Elijah Taylor, John Moran, Fred J. Coumbs and wife, Robert Edwards, Frank Woods, Harry Ferris, Miss Nellie Stack, Mr. R. Doyle, Miss Millie Patterson, Mrs. Robinson, Irving McDonald, Nellie Koster, Mr. Ritter, Miss M. E. Trenneman, Mr. A. I. Weir, Miss M. E. Saunders, Miss Mamie George, Tarrytown, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Jones, Mr. Ross Kehoe, Mr. Russell Dougherty, Mr. Harry Dobson, Mr. James Owen O'Connor.

THE McANEENY TESTIMONIAL BENEFIT.—The Grand Complimentary Concert tendered to Mr. D. W. McAneeny, relative to which we published the correspondence in our issue of February 16th., promises to be the most notable telegraphic event in New York since the unveiling of the Morse Statue in Central Park, which was followed by a celebration in the evening at the Academy of Music.

The esteem in which Mr. McAneeny, the popular tenor, is held by his musical friends, is no less than that in which he is held by telegraphers with whom as the Western Union Company's Eastern Chief he has been so long and so intimately associated.

Mr. McAneeny has for years been prominent in the reunions and social meetings of the fraternity in New York, and has done more than a full share to make them successful and enjoyable.

He well deserves the testimonial concert. It will be among the best ever given in Chickering's famous hall of music. Following is the programme, brilliant with names of well known artists.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. MALE CHORUS—"Spring again rejoices"—.....Durrner
2. CONTRALTO SOLO—"A Summer Night," A. Goring Thomas
MRS. JENNIE C. TOMLINSON.
3. VIOLIN SOLO—"Nocturne,".....H. W. Ernest
MR. MICHAEL BANNER.
4. SOPRANO SOLO—"Parla,".....Arditti
MRS. FRANK J. JOHNSON.
5. BARITONE SOLO—"Postillion,".....Molloy
MR. FRED. STEEB.
6. RECITATION—"Singing Joseph,".....Preston
MR. ALFRED E. PEARSALL.
7. TENOR SOLO—"The Garonne,".....S. Adams
MR. D. W. McANEENY.

PART II.

1. BASS SOLO—"Two Grenadiers,".....Schumann
MR. THOS. T. DRILL.
2. VIOLIN SOLO—Fantasie from "Faust,"...H. Wieniawski
MR. MICHAEL BANNER.
3. SOPRANO SOLO—"The Angel at the Window,".....Tours
MRS. FRANK J. JOHNSON.
4. RECITATION—Skits and Sketches.....Pearsall
MR. ALFRED E. PEARSALL.
5. CONTRALTO SOLO—Aria from Opera Mitrane,"...Rossi
MRS. JENNIE C. TOMLINSON.
6. TENOR SOLO—"Tis Better not to Know,".....Clay
MR. D. W. McANEENY.
7. MALE CHORUS—"Annie Laurie,"..Harmonized by Buck

DR. NORVIN GREEN ON THE TELEGRAPHIC SITUATION.

The weekly *Globe*, a journal, devoted to financial news in New York city, publishes an interview in this week's issue with Dr. Norvin Green, the president of the Western Union Telegraph Company.

After reviewing the telegraphic outlook of the country, which he considers very good, the venerable Dr. talks rather freely and frankly, regarding the vast army of employes in the employ of the company.

"The telegraph operators in our employ are the most intelligent body of men working for a salary in America. There are very few of our employes who are not capable of filling higher and better positions than they now occupy. They certainly would make their mark in any department of life. I refer, of course, to the telegraphers as an average.

"There are not many promotions to offer the operators compared to the number who are at work.

"When a promotion is open it is a difficult matter for us to pick out a man, the good material is so plentiful and deserving. There are so many pegs to fit into the few round holes that are open."

When asked regarding the condition of the employes and if there was any danger of another strike similar to the one that occurred a few years ago. Dr. Green said :

"As far as I know there is no discontent among our employes, certainly they have no occasion to be dissatisfied. Their rate of wages are uniformly good and much better than are paid in similar occupations. No, I don't anticipate a recurrence of any strikes. To be sure there are some few sore heads. There are sore heads in every business, and we have some in our employ."

The balance of the interview is devoted to a review of the effect of the telephone upon the telegraph government and civil competition and other matters concerning the telegraph business that interests the stockholders particularly.

The Electrical Accumulator Company a few days ago, commenced suit in equity against the Julien Company, charging infringement of the well-known Sellon patent covering the use of an alloy plate in secondary batteries ; damages and an injunction are asked for. The same corporation has also instituted suit in equity against the Gibson Electric Company on three several patents of Faure, Swan and Sallon, covering improvements in secondary batteries. A termination of these suits favorable to the complainant will place it in complete control of the secondary battery business, and render all those now using batteries manufactured or sold by either defendant or corporation liable to damages.

NASHVILLE NOTES.—As many changes in the force have occurred during the last few months, that your correspondent failed to chronicle, the personnel of this office may be read with interest by the many readers of your valuable journal. A. H. Stewart, is day chief operator ; N. S. Brown, assistant chief ; E. W. Morgan traffic chief ; Geer, Hunt, Newman, Foster, Marsh, Hopper, P. L. Stevenson, Wilson, McGoldrick, Hogshead, Fleming, Hoffman, Knoch, T. D. Stevenson, Dillon, Pritchett, O. Stanley and R. G. Stanley, split trick ; Arthur Cole and Ruby Hardy, check clerks ; Jones, Lynch, Williams, Park, Haylow, Beuchler, Quisenbury and Hooper. J. U. Rust, night chief operator ; W. C. Atkinson, assistant chief ; A. V. Johnson, traffic chief ; Barthell, Arnold, Leitch, Brown, McGuire, Weber and Haralson. Jno. H. Bond, Jr., check clerk. We deeply sympathize with Chief Stewart and R. C. Wilson, of the day force, in their sad bereavement, the former of a brother, and the latter of his wife. Lucien M. Adkins, an ex-telegrapher now on the reportorial staff of the Louisville *Courier journal*, was in the city during the Democratic caucus of the general assembly, reporting the proceedings to the above paper.

PHILADELPHIA NOTES.—The handsomest and one of the best adapted telegraph offices in the city has just been com-

pleted in the rotunda of the Post office. Mr. J. W. Dwyer, the day manager, has assigned J. S. Stone and M. C. Neippling to the locals, John Sisk on specials and James Maguire to the S. N. A. ; W. W. Dowell, receiver and J. A. Chapman and Thos. Taylor to the delivery and district departments, respectively. Mr. C. A. Bigler, late manager of the B. & O., has charge of the night force which consists of A. D. Feasee, A. L. Daly, R. H. Miles, James Christy and Clem. H. Congdon, all night ; J. F. Knause, receiver and John O'Rourke, delivery clerk. Among those who "scoop" at "X" are Walter Bair, A. S. Seel, James Williams, W. H. Stetson, John McKeever, Robert Laverty, J. W. Paulhamus and R. L. Jameson. The first annual report of The Telegraphers Aid Society, of Philadelphia, was submitted at their last meeting. It shows a very encouraging state of affairs. The organizers are deserving of much credit. John Nesbit, a popular operator, is confined to his room with typhoid fever. His life was despaired of a day or so ago, but later reports are more favorable.

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Nearly a year has elapsed since the Washington Postal office was heard from through the AGE. We still exist, however, and are not very *still* after all. [Pun!] A steady gain has characterized the business of the office during the past year, and now we are on the eve of establishing southern circuits, which will lend to our importance. Mr. W. H. Allen, who manipulated Morse way back in war times, and whose firm grip is still unmistakeably apparent when a rush calls him into the operating room, has held the management here since the Postal's advent in Washington. To his judicious management is due much of the success which we claim as ours. Mr. W. R. Andrews manipulates the switch days, and Mr. G. W. Ribble performs the same duty nights. The latter has recently invested in real estate, and we predict another investment at an early date, but who the fortunate girl will be we cannot conjecture. Our all night chief, Mr. G. M. J. Dorsey, not only does the small hours of the morning, but has recently lightened the cares of the day chief by some successful experiments by which he secures the presence of the day force promptly at 8 A. M. The plan adopted by Mr. Dorsey is to photograph (?) such members of the force as might be present at that hour. Of course each individual wants to appear in the group and the result is a gratifying one. This is Mr. Dorsey's parting salutation daily. The *personel* of the force is as follows : Days, Messrs. Robert Prender, W. H. Mayer (split) H. M. Fridley, E. G. Well, Doctors F. T. Burch, C. Boyd and Miss L. F. Scott, nights ; Messrs. W. J. Slater, W. J. Stanton and S. Trunnell. At this season of the year everybody works extra, some men doing almost double duty. When our congressional friends leave us in March, "extra" will cease till they return. Business in the patent district is ably handled by Miss Helen Smith, assisted by Mr. Jos. Trunnell. The produce business is well looked after by Mr. C. S. White and Mr. Geo. Roby. Depot and hotel business is kept in hand by Messrs. G. H. Frazier and Wm. G. Lea.

MAUCH CHUNK.—The telegraph operators of the Lehigh Valley met in Mauch Chunk and organized a division of the Order of Railroad Telegraphers. Thirty operators were present and the organization starts out with fifty-seven charter members. It is officered as follows : President, E. F. Fry, Lansford ; vice-president, J. N. Weller, East Mauch Chunk ; secretary and treasurer, S. M. Downs, Mauch Chunk.

The Electrical Accumulator Company reports having completed installation of 112-"15A" cells with Otto Gas Engine, together with all necessary switches and appliances, in the elegant Chicago residence of Potter Palmer of Palmer's Hotel. The plant was turned over on February 18th, everything working perfectly ; Mr. and Mrs. Palmer were very much pleased. It was impossible to detect the slightest fluctuation in the light.

WITH WESTERN UNION FORTY YEARS.—After a connection of nearly forty years with the Western Union, at Fall River, Mass., William P. Potter has resigned his position as local manager, and is succeeded by P. Van Allen, of the Boston office. Mr. Potter established the first telegraph office in that city, and was highly respected in the business community.

BOSTON AID SOCIETY.—The yearly statement of the Telegraph Mutual Aid and Literary Association, of Boston, is as follows:

Total number of members in good standing December 31, 1888.....	83
Expelled for non-payment of dues.....	11
Initiated.....	22
Left the City.....	4
Resigned.....	1
Died (Wm. J. McAleer).....	1
Amount due from members in good standing, \$18.60, which will beyond doubt be collected within the limitation provided by the Constitution.	
Receipts and expenditures.	
RECEIPTS.	
Initiations and monthly dues.....	\$ 310 00
Profit on ball.....	509 00
Refunded by M. M. McLean.....	20 00
Total.....	\$839 00
EXPENDITURES.	
Sick Benefits.....	\$231 00
Death Benefits (Wm. J. McAleer).....	50 00
Rent, Salaries and incidentals.....	59 00
Total.....	\$340 00
Balance for the year.....	\$499 00
Amount deposited in bank December 31, 1888....	1,019 58
In the hands of acting Treasurer (H. W. Gillespie)	30 00
Total.....	\$1,049 58

BOSTON NOTES.—The personnel of this office as well as the incidental occurrences, taking place, have recently been published in the AGE, so for the present, there is little of importance to add in this direction.

There are, however, other matters which many members of the profession would like to see more thoroughly treated of in the AGE; such as the moral and intellectual standard of the profession as it is now, and how it compares with that of the past. Whether we are advancing or retrograding? What are the ways and means of advancement? What detrimental causes we should try to avoid? What incentives we should adopt to elevate the profession? And various other matters of like nature, if treated of more frequently, might materially enhance the moral as well as the intellectual tone of the fraternity. We can say with pride for Boston there has been a gradual but steady improvement among the members of the craft here of late years. Not that the younger element are better than our older artists, but in the fact that the actions of the disagreeable and dissolute class of operators meet with less favor than formerly.

There are still some abuses among us which need to be remedied, and which will in due time be mentioned; but in general the Boston fraternity are a respectable and courteous class of men and women.

They are as a rule comparatively intelligent also, and some much above the ordinary. The aspirations for advancement seem to increase every day. We have now disciples of medicine, dentistry, law, electricity, history, and various other studies, some of these students having by their own efforts advanced themselves from messenger boys to their present positions.

During the past few years many of our companions have obtained prominent positions on the staff of some of the daily papers, others have presented themselves with considerable credit before the foot-lights, so that on the whole the prospect for promotion to other fields of labor is very encouraging to those who have the spirit to go ahead.

In the face of such glowing facts as these, the opinion that these operators are a reckless and dissolute class of people, can no longer exist, at least in Boston. W. U. arrivals, J. J. Duggan, Lowell, Mass.; departures, Miss M. E. Morse to a pool room. Miss Ellingwood has returned from a vacation, and relieves Miss Baker who returns to city line departments. Miss Ellingwood has returned from a brief vacation relieving Miss Baker who returns to city line depot. Mr. Wallace Cox surprised the boys lately by passing round a box of fine cigars. We have been informed that it is a boy, weight 12 pounds. All night Chief Colson has returned from a shooting trip along the Maine Coast. Mr. R. E. Nason has been appointed assistant night wire chief, Mr. Brewer relieving the cable quads. H. A. Stanley was the happy recipient of a Christmas present in the shape of a thirteen pound girl. Another box of cigars is now in order. Mr. J. C. Couillard has relieved Mr. W. E. Brown, going with Doran Wright Co.

BURLINGTON, IOWA, NOTES.—One of the most successful and enjoyable events of the season in telegraph circles of this city was the second annual ball of the O. R. T., Orchard City Division, No. 47, on the evening of January 31st. About 125 couples participated, and tripped the light fantastic until the "wee sma' hours," when "30" was reached on the very neat and tasty programme, and the company dispersed, congratulating the operators and voting them "a jolly good crowd." A goodly number of telegraphers from the city and the surrounding country were present. Among others were W. C. Russell, E. R. Reppert, E. J. Norton, F. H. Cisna, C. R. Howard, F. C. Crone, P. A. Reppert, E. J. Goodspeed, Geo. Heldorfer, W. B. Bracken, G. A. Sinclair, L. D. Wolf, Eugene Brennan. Among the outside visitors were Miss Emma Lewis, Columbus, Ia.; J. E. Lee, B. F. Steffen, and others. The Orchard City Division of the O. R. T. No. 47, was organized October 17, 1887, with thirteen charter members. It is in a very flourishing condition in this section, and now numbers forty-five members in good standing. Personnel of officers: Past chief telegrapher, W. C. Russell; asst. chief telegrapher, E. J. Norton; senior chief telegrapher, C. R. Howard; junior chief telegrapher, A. G. Kamm; secretary and treasurer, E. J. Goodspeed; inside sentinel, F. C. Crone.

HELENA NOTES.—Since my last, there has been almost a complete change in the N. P. office. The personnel now is as follows; L. Horton, manager, vice John Savoy resigned and gone east. C. S. Soule, first half night chief, vice C. A. Murray resigned and gone east. J. E. Bell of St. Paul & N. P. R. R. office last half night chief, vice H. Brooks Nixon, also resigned and gone east. E. S. Briner, from Tacoma, works the split trick, putting John Slocum on days. F. M. Beall has been transferred to the yard office, and Denver P. Dayton to the general ticket office up town as ticket agent and operator, together with Mr. Meiner, assistants to A. L. Stokes. Denver has the best wishes of all the boys for continued success, as he deserves a good position. The dispatchers have been moved to Missoula. Business is growing up and in consequence, all are very busy.

The Wichita Electric Bell Co., B. C. Elder and Co., proprietors, is doing quite an extensive electrical business at Wichita, Ks. and surrounding territory. Mr. Elder is a well-known member of the profession.

Superintendent A. S. Brown, of the Mutual Union, New York, has gone to Europe with his family for a few months vacation. Before sailing he was tendered a banquet by the officials of the Western Union Company.

NEWARK, O., NOTES.—The management of the Postal devolves upon E. H. Palmer. That of the Western Union upon J. W. Mannion, assisted by David Frey. At the P. C. and St. L. Ry., Edw. J. Conley, an old timer, has put in 20 years at that station, and Charles Mansberger, days, and Del. Beard and Geo. Park, nights. W. H. Parrish has charge of the ticket office. The broker's office is presided over by H. B. Peeler. At the B. & O. R. R., Geo. R. Kimball is division chief operator and chief train despatcher, *vice* C. E. Wise, resigned. The general telegraph office at the B. & O. station is under the management of Henry D. Bartholomew, assisted by T. B. Howe, days; G. M. Moore and S. P. Cline, chiefs; the operators are Cyrus W. Anderson, J. S. Booth, William McMullen, Ed. F. Swigert and Chas. A. Anderson; messengers, J. Arthur Green and R. A. Sudbury, days; Chas. McManus, nights; split tricks, M. C. Wesson, J. S. Booth and T. B. Howe. At the despatcher's office we find Messrs. C. A. Adams, W. F. Sheridan, Harry Fordyce, Jas. F. Irwin, D. M. Keim, Harry Abernethy, assisted by E. E. Baird, R. C. Morrison, J. W. Esswinger, John Abernethy, Jas. Gallagher and F. A. McDonald; Yard west is in charge of D. H. Moriarity and Jas. Larimore; Yard east, Maurice Fitzgerald and Wm. Killen; Round House, E. N. Vanetta, C. F. Sowersby. In Superintendent R. T. Devrie's office, J. C. Broodus, and in Train Master H. A. Morrison's office, O. A. Pier. During the existence of the B. & O. Tel. Co. this was the principal repeating office for the West, having 60 wires with repeaters, single and multiplex. Since the consolidation there has been no change, except the removal of the commercial side of the work taking one man.

DALLAS.—The commercial business in this section seems to have taken a sudden decline, and a great many reductions have taken place all over the State. James C. Langley, after a vacation of three months, has returned. E. T. Potter and wife, formerly of St. Louis, and N. C. Wood, Fort Worth, are the latest arrivals. L. G. Hawkins, to the G. C. & S. F. Ry.; C. S. Norvell, New Orleans; C. A. Work and C. A. Read, to engage in other business, the departures. There was a meeting held in this city last week by thirty of the local electricians to organize an Electrical Association. All were agreed that the movement was timely and proceeded to temporary organization by electing Mr. R. K. Saunders, of the Western Union, president, and Mr. C. O. Harris temporary secretary. Committees were appointed as follows: Constitution and By-Laws—W. P. Davis, J. M. Oram and F. M. Henshaw. Permanent Organization—Henry Garrett, D. M. Clower and C. O. Harris. The meeting then adjourned until next Thursday night.

WANTS A NEW MAN.—A laughable incident occurred in the main office of the Western Union at Milwaukee, Wis., a few days since, at the expense of a young operator who had recently been employed by one of the railroad companies at a way station, not far from that city. From the course of events it was easily to be seen that he was unacquainted with commercial telegraphic terms. When he had been in the office a short time he was told to answer a call on one of the heavy way wires. He complied with the request like a gentleman and received about a dozen messages, interrupting the sender but once or twice. When the transmitting operator had sent his "pile" he made the usual signal, "n m," meaning "no more." At this juncture the inexperienced operator became very indignant, and going to the chief operator, said: "Look here! If am to be treated in this way I want to quit right now. I took a pile of messages from that office you told me to answer, and only broke him a couple of times, and now he says he wants a "new man (n m)."

Business seems to be increasing. The man who collects the waste paper says his part of it is picking up.

SAVANNAH NOTES.—As it has been a very long time since this office has been heard from, there are quite a number of changes to record. Mr. S. J. Maxwell, formerly manager of the Southern at Augusta, Ga., is manager, having succeeded Mr. J. P. Merrihew, who was recently elected superintendent of the Savannah Cotton Exchange. Mr. Maxwell is very popular and has the highest esteem of the force. Mr. Harry Zeigler is day chief, having succeeded Mr. Dundon. "Zig" is a favorite with all. The remainder of the force is: Night Chief Frank P. Hernandez, the "land-mark;" Traffic Chief, "Tony" Hernandez; operators, M. P. Dundon, Peter Chase, E. H. Strickland, H. W. Chambers, P. V. Reich, J. D. Wooten, T. R. Rusk, days; James Seabrook, H. C. Biggs, T. J. Mahoney, J. S. Bland, split trick; A. C. Kuttner, and G. W. C. Spaid, nights. Business has increased one half during the past year, necessitating another "quad" between here and Augusta. A beautiful new switch is to be put in this week. There is much complaint of lack of room. Every thing is crowded uncomfortably close together, and it is hoped that we will be removed to more spacious quarters before many "moons." The boys presented Miss Annandale with a basket of beautiful cut flowers, at the opera house, last Friday night. She was very much pleased with the token from the men "who never forget" a kindness. Latest arrivals; H. C. Biggs, Washington; P. V. Reich; Atlanta; H. W. Chambers, Augusta. Departures; Bassett, back to Jacksonville; E. W. Blau for Atlanta; E. A. Jenny, and J. S. Samuels, Patterson, Ga.

TORONTO G. N. W. NOTES.—The Dominion House of Parliament has opened up again for session, and in consequence a considerable amount of work has been added to the night force. Mr. Charles W. Hurlbut, of the day force, is in charge of the office at the local Legislative Assembly, and is doing good work. Mr. Arthur Christian has left and is now with this Company at Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. James Crawford, a widely-known telegrapher throughout the entire United States and Canada, called on us a few days ago. He was on the way to his home in Brownsville, Ont., to commence another line of business—farming. "Jimmy" says there is no money in telegraphing. The following operators have just returned from vacation: Miss E. Porte, Miss J. Robson, Miss P. Weaver and Miss Chalk, and Mr. Alf. Cullen. Mr. R. F. Eason, Superintendent of Press, is jubilant over the recent arrival of a boy at his residence.

In the Dominion Parliament Col. Fred. C. Denison, M. P., withdrew his resolution affirming the wisdom of putting the telegraph lines under government control.

This telegraph bill had nothing to recommend its passage, excepting the ability to put more offices at the disposal of the politicians. This young country is old enough to do without parental government in managing its various commercial systems. The Parliament House at Ottawa is manned by the following C. P. R. staff who handle on an average of 40,000 words nightly: Mr. John Cooney is chief; Ed Curlette assistant; the latter rattles off as perfect and rapid as any one could desire; Mr. John Servor, Harry Davy, Herb. Randall and Wm. Cummings. Mr. K. G. Starr, of Brockville, has accepted a situation at Ottawa.

GALVESTON NOTES.—C. A. Aycock, of the Western Union here, has been transferred to the same company in San Antonio. The St. Louis wire is worked by J. Morrrows, days, and V. D. Thompson, nights. Manager Bell Brooks has gone to Austin, Tex., on business connected with the local legislature. Mr. Gooding has arrived here from Detroit, Mich., and will hereafter work on the night force.

Carl P. Swain, a well known operator of Fort Wayne, Ind., has secured the appointment of the advertising department of the M. K. & T. R. R., with headquarters at Sedalia, Mo. The many friends of Mr. Swain will be glad to hear of his good fortune.

WESTERN UNION NOTES—Two young women who have heretofore been considered most reputable, were found guilty and dismissed the service for stealing from the cloak-room several of the articles described in a previous issue. It is hoped the kleptomaniac fever has now subsided. Jack McAuliff, the pugilist, was at one time a messenger here. Those who profess to know say he is a striker. Ed. Burrill, in charge of Eastern traffic, nights, has been confined to the house several days with the measles. From this it would appear that some of the things missed early in life may be acquired in later years. The following message was received by a well-known chief operator the other day from a young lady in the Western Division: "Please go down in the ladies' waiting-room and get my 'Dark Secret,' on the marble slab." But he didn't. He deputized a young lady. That the boys in the Wheatstone are rapidly acquiring efficiency in the handling of business entrusted to their care by G. W. Gardanier, chief in charge of the night force in that department, was fully demonstrated on the night of February 15, when in addition to 31,000 words of press they handled 1,300 messages. The paragraph in a previous issue announcing the death of Harry Heritage's only child, was an error. It should have read his youngest child. For absenting themselves without leave, directly after pay-day, several waiting-list men received an indefinite suspension. As a matter of course, everybody but the operator who received it, is convinced that Dr. S. C. Ryus Townsend should have been Dr. S. Cyrus Townsend. Nat Byrne, for several years manager of various companies at the Produce Exchange, but more recently with the Postal Company, has been added to the waiting-list. Charles Kirschbaum, late of the regular night force, has changed off for two months with John Morrison of the 1 to 8 A. M. force. Chief Operator Geo. Stainton has presented to Mr. Maize, of Pittsburg, a photograph of all the chiefs here. A similar compliment was paid Mr. Riley, of "Cu," Philadelphia, by Messrs. Griffith and Anson; Mr. Morgan, of Albany, by Mr. Howell; Mr. Laird, of Buffalo, by Mr. Meyer and Mr. Guthridge, of Baltimore, by Paul Sheehan, of the one to eight A. M. force. An operator in one of the Brooklyn offices recently telegraphed the following message to a well-known young lady here: "Iconoclastic detention prevented my meeting you this afternoon." Just what kind of images he was destroying, is not apparent. George Jolly has been assigned to the regular Sunday-night force.

After Paul Sheehan, who worked for Frank Eastman the other night, had been relieved at 1 o'clock, he turned to Ham Fitchett, who just then was passing down the aisle, with the remark: "Well, I don't want any more floor work in mine. The board is good enough for me. There's too much moving of men to—" "Yes," interjected Ham, "you're right." Then, with a merry twinkle in his eye, he added, when a wire doesn't work you can throw it out." For regularity, punctuality and good record generally, the following-named gentlemen on the night force were excused, with pay, Washington's Birthday: Messrs. Farr, Gay, Howell, Webster, Van Antwerp, Frank Smith, Desmond, Shain, Danforth, Bradley, Feeley, Wedin, Jolly, Howlett and Lambdin; also clerks Eason, Steecken, Logan, Mills, O'Neill, Faulkner, Melvin, Lennon and Arthur.

Boys, don't forget to remember the concert at Chickerling Hall, March 2nd. Give Mr. McAneeny a genuine old snorter. George Stainton is confined to the house with rheumatism. His place at the board is filled temporarily, and with considerable credit, by John Moffatt.

The first annual tour of the Long Island Society to Blackwell's Island a few days ago was in every respect a grand success. The following members were present: Jno. Topping, R. G. Stephenson, E. E. Brannin, J. McParlan, Lant Jones, J. Clolery, D. H. DeBaum and Senator Ives. The latter, however, was unable to attend, owing to the inability of

the Company to find another man competent to work 51 East. Each and every member was made chairman of a Committee, and as such was expected to furnish whatever was needed by the others, from a jewsharp up to and including stimulants, jokes, etc., but all agree that the segars furnished by Clolery not only smelled to Heaven, but about 93 miles beyond. The music furnished by Mr. Brannin would have sounded as sweet, if not sweeter, by another name. It was a sort of cross between a saw-file and a horse fiddle, with no resemblance to either. While it was conceded by all that a man better qualified to keep moving the business "on the farm" could not readily be found, the opinion was pretty generally expressed that his musical education had been sadly neglected. After visiting all the institutions the Society returned to the city, enjoyed a collation, and dispersed.

On the evening of February 27th, the entertainment and reception of the Friendship Boat Club, of New York city, took place. It was a very successful and enjoyable affair and reflected great credit upon the committee of arrangement, of which Thos. M. J. Hannon, a prominent telegraph operator was chairman and Wm. Hart, secretary. Among some of the well-known knights of the key who were present, were Capt. Frank English, David Dunham, Oliver Hart, J. J. Smollin, Wm. Newman, Wm. Auld, Thos. Hegenbotham and Wally Brasil.

The annual meeting of the Postal Telegraph Cable Company of Pennsylvania was held in Philadelphia a few days since. The old Board of Directors was re-elected, with Wilbur L. Sanger in the place of William McMullen, who has resigned. The officers for the ensuing year are: Albert B. Chandler, president; E. C. Platt, vice-president; Charles C. Adams, secretary, and George I. Williamson, treasurer.

A "Telegraph and Shorthand Institute" has been opened at Waco, Texas. Its prospectus is almost as encouraging as that of the late "Western Telegraph Company" of New York, which was closed by the mayor and police for misrepresentation and fraud. In their notices they say, "the institute is established to meet a real necessity." We have not heard of such an emergency existing at Waco, but if there is, we can recommend hundreds of good, reliable operators who are willing to work for figures less than those represented by the "plug" factory as paid to beginners. When we recommend that the Chief of Police and the Mayor of Waco, demand of this institute proof that it is not swindling innocent people, we but do the public a favor which we owe it by reason of our being familiar with the telegraphic situation of the entire country.

OPERATORS AND TYPEWRITERS.—A person who knows nothing of telegraphy cannot imagine what an advantage to an operator a typewriter is. It is a strange thing to me also that the operators do not more generally recognize it. An operator, even though he may be rapid with his pen, is generally three or four words behind the sender, or even more, and thus is compelled to carry the wording in his head. With a typewriter, if he is even fairly expert, he can keep up with the sender, and if he is very fast he will find himself waiting. This is a great thing for an operator. If he is carrying a message in his head he is liable to lose it, and have to break in on the sender to repeat it. This gives him a bad reputation. Then mistakes are less liable, as the operator is taking the dispatch word for word and is not liable to write seventeen instead of seventy or seventy instead of seventeen.—*Ex* [If the author of the above would take the trouble to make inquiries, he would learn that typewriters are not adaptable to receiving short messages, which is the reason why the machines are not more generally used by operators.]

It is said that nine-tenths of the telegraphic errors are due to poor handwriting.

Telegraph Operator J. H. Holder of the Postal, Brooklyn, had a miraculous escape from instant death while operating the wires in his office a few days since. An electric wire crossing a telegraph wire sent a powerful current into the office and set on fire the main line instrument and also the switchboard. In trying to put things in order, Mr. Holder severely burnt his right hand. He had just finished trans-

mitting a message and a second before took his finger from the key.

George Folwell, a telegrapher, was taken from Erie to Pittsburg to await the action of the United States District Court of Tennessee, being charged with excessive pension fees and bribery.

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J. B. TALTAVALL, 5 Dey Street, New York

MILWAUKEE.—The Western Union main office is presided over by E. M. Shape, with W. H. Maher as assistant. W. R. Barker looks after the switchboard. The day force is composed as follows: H. J. Ramsey, "Pete" Williams, H. Saefke, F. Johann and G. F. Sickinger, all of whom man Chicago quad. William Plant takes care of St. Paul business. In the woods we find Misses McCracken, Edgerton, Paylor, Wasau, Plant, Costello, Mrs. Graham and Messrs. Houghton, Christnacht, Sullivan, Knockenhawer and Prestwood. John J. Morris is manager on change, assisted by John Fleming. Nights, Wm. M. Grange, manager; John Crotty, assistant; Mr. Werle and A. E. Shape, Chicago quad; Mr. Bassendale, signals; A. Wilson, Marquette report. Chas. Warth is all night chief. Jerry O'Connell has been working for the W. U. in Madison for the past month. The Postal is doing a big business in this city. Genial Tom Ramsey is manager and a favorite with all the boys. John O'Brien is chief with Mark Farley, Joe Ramsey and E. W. Bogges as operators. M. Addis is manager for the C. & M. Telegraph Co., assisted by J. D. Roe. United Press—A. P. Velie, days; Ed Lee, nights. Associated Press.—Chas. Dean, days; Ed Hickey and E. B. Duffy, nights. W. C. Williver is manager for the M. U. on East Water street. Harry Butler holds forth at the Plankinton House. Joe Cook is with a broker and Pete McGill has a good berth with Cudalby Bros. John Sullivan, A. Walsh and E. Sullivan are with the M. L. S. & W. Ry.

DETROIT.—Messrs. F. P. Cruice and G. A. Staley, two of the six whose services were dispensed with on account falling off of business, have been put on again; Mr. Cruice on the split trick, and Mr. Staley nights. Mr. F. J. Norton is a recent arrival, having been transferred from St. Ignace. Business is picking up rapidly at this point. On February 5th, Mr. J. F. Henry took a little trip into Ontario, and returned on the eleventh, bringing with him a bride of four days. At Ingersoll, Ont., on February 7th, Mr. Henry was joined in wedlock to Miss Agnes Dunn. We were overlooked on the day when the cake was passed, but we are just as fervent in our good wishes, John. Talk about telegrapher's bulls, what's the matter with "Ye intelligent compositor." A few days since a denizen of the wilds of Michigan, wishing to dispose of a Sorghum machine, sent a notice to that effect to a city paper, and here's what appeared in that evening's edition. "A nearly new, hundred dollar Organ Grinder for sale cheap." The farmer kicked and it was corrected to read, "Sorghum Grinder."

NEW YORK TELEGRAPH CLUB.—Notwithstanding the fact that the city of New York and immediate vicinity contains thousands of telegraphers, there has been heretofore no organization of a social nature which has offered facilities for the closer contact and friendlier relationship between members of the craft, of a general and comprehensive kind.

Other professions, such as members of the press, military, medical, scientific, and others too numerous to mention, most of them weaker numerically than are the telegraphers, have such organizations and facilities, and there is no reason why we should not come out of the rut and place ourselves on an equal footing with them. In view of these considerations, the New York Telegraph Club was organized February 15, its objects being:

1.—The promotion of greater social intercourse among members of the fraternity.

2.—The giving of entertainments, the nature of which shall be decided upon by the members of the club, at stated periods,

3.—The eventual establishment of a club house or suite of club rooms near the centre for the fraternity in the city of New York, which shall be fitted with accommodations for convenience and enjoyment of the members, such as gymnasium, pool and billiard tables, reading room and library; apartments for whist, chess, checker parties, etc., etc.

It is believed that such an organization will be of benefit to the telegraphers of New York in many ways. It would form a nucleus for base ball, lacrosse, cricket, boating, gunning, fishing clubs, pool or billiard tournaments, etc.

4.—An annual dinner is proposed to be given, and an annual ball; the first dinner to take place during March of each year.

With the co-operation of members of the fraternity throughout the city and vicinity it will be an easy and inexpensive undertaking to establish such an institution. Telegraphers are invited to send their names to the Secretary of the club for proposal for active membership at once. The following officers have been elected for the ensuing year:

President,.....George E. Holbrook.
 First Vice-President,....George W. Hann.
 Second Vice-President,....Robert W. Martin.
 Third Vice-President,....Thomas W. Greene.
 Secretary,.....J. C. Watts.
 Treasurer,.....James I. Buxton.

Governing Committee.—G. E. Holbrook, G. W. Hann, R. W. Martin, T. W. Greene, J. C. Watts, J. I. Buxton, Frank Griffiths, F. R. Blanchard, Jas. Tompkins, C. R. Danforth, B. B. Palmer, John Powers, N. F. Beow, C. F. McCrum, J. B. Taltavall, E. F. Stevens, Ed. Sprong, John Brant and seven others to be appointed.

BALTIMORE NOTES.—During the illness of Felix Mallon, his time was made good by Chief Inspector Muller and others of the C. N. D.—George W. Plummer, formerly of the B. & O., who has for some time been in feeble health, is now confined to the house with throat troubles. He has been on the W. U. night force. The day force have very commendably arranged to fill in his time, until his recovery. This fraternal spirit is to be applauded wherever it is shown or practiced. R. G. Simmoas of the Chicago circuit, has resigned to take effect March 1st. He has accepted a position as telegrapher at Hygeia Hotel, Fortress Monroe, Va. He carries with him a good name and the good will and wish of the entire force. Mr. Montgomery, who has been sojourning in Toledo for a couple of months, has returned home and is filling the position recently held by Mr. U. S. McCauley. Mr. Haden Gentry, Jr., who was manager of the fish and oyster district, for the old bankers and brokers in 1866 and later on for the W. U., Atlantic and Pacific, American Union, Continental, Bankers and Merchants. B. & O. United Lines, is once more in that position for the W. U., after an absence of three years. Postal Notes.—Mr. Robert Fields has resigned to accept a position with the P. W. & B. R. R. Mr. G. W. Morris is on the sick list; Mr. J. B. Ward transferred to the produce and fish district. New arrivals: Wm. Seyler and H. Stump. A. D. T. Co. Notes.—Since our last letter there has been nothing of especial character to note except that nearly all the entire district force want to go to Washington on March 4th, but are unable to secure subs.

CABLE STAFF BANQUET.—A goodly company assembled in Martinelli's restaurant, on Fifth avenue, on Thursday evening, February 21st, the occasion being the first annual dinner of the New York employees of the Atlantic Cable Companies. By a *viva voce* vote Mr. P. J. Keliher was chosen Chairman and P. J. Tierney, Vice-Chairman. Mr. Keliher, in gracefully acknowledging the compliment paid him, called attention to the fact that he and his associate officer were Western Union men, and suggested that some of the other companies should name the chairman, but the company positively refused to reverse its decision. In the course of the evening Mr. Tierney, being called upon, delivered an interesting oration on the progress made in trans-Atlantic telegraphy. After many songs and stories the entertainment was brought to a happy conclusion by unanimously voting that just such another dinner would be held on each recurring 21st of February, and the hope was expressed that a larger representation could make it convenient to attend.

A FEW BREVITIES.

"DE."

That the male portion of the fraternity is the more economical in the matter of dress is very evident, from the following :

1st Lady Operator—"I'm going to have my new dress next Saturday, Maud. Oh, it's perfectly lovely—brown velvet with big train. Panels of ecru silk and corsage of embroidered steel, with silver aigrette. I think I'll have the skirt made with accordeon plaits. Won't that be nice?"

2d Lady Opr.—"Oh, Clara, that will suit your complexion exquisitely.

1st Male Operator—"Say, Jim, let's go over to the Bay Saturday ; want to get a pair of 75-cent shoes."

2d Male Opr.—"All right. I got a hat the last pay-day for 37 cents ; want to get vest this time."

There was a young man on a quad,
Who had better been carrying the hod ;
He worked it one night,
When business was light,
But when it was heavy, oh ! Lawd.

The system of giving a description of each race run on the different tracks is quite interesting in its way, especially to the old-time sport. "They are off," when delivered in stentorian tones by Mr. Stienmetz, awakens memories of the Suburban, recollections of the Derby, and loving, departed \$5 bills.

The members of the D. L. Club have been for some time trying to get a suitable hymn with which to open the meetings of the club. Many compositions have been handed in, and at the last meeting of the club the following beautiful song was adopted by the committee :

"The day *before* pay-day I'm a resolute man,
And vow I will drink no more rum,
But the day *after* pay-day I drink from a can,
And, in fact, I'm a very bad bum.

"On the day before pay-day I swear this and that,
And think I am proof against sin,
But the day after pay-day I'm full as a bat,
And I generally blow myself in."

"Yis," said the venerable doorkeeper, reflectively : "I knew that chap whin he was the wurst looking divil of a bye in the office. He nivr had a buton on his coat and his shoes I don't balave were shined onct a year, so they wurrent. But look at him now and shtyle of him. I ushed to spake to him about his parsonal appairance, so I ushed, but he nivr seemed to care a rap how he came to wurruk. He niver got shaved till his beard got to hurtin his face, and then mebber he would and mebber he wouldn't. He ushed to ware the domdest dushters, spllit all up the back, so he ushed, and there wasn't a piece of it as big as me thumb but was daubed with ink, so it was. But about two months ago I began to notice a great change in the bye's shtyle, so I did. He came in wan mornin' looking like a jude, so he did. He was all dresshed up, mindye, and he was a dom fine looking fellow, too, so he was. And from that day to this he has kept it up. He made the change so suddent loike that it sit me to thinkin' what caused it. So says I to meself, I'll watch ye, me laddybuck, and I did. Do you know why that fellow dresses so well and puts on so many didos? Well, do ye see that little girl that looks so purty loike, a rose in the garden? Well, that bye is dead sthuck on the little girl, so he is."

A MOTTO.

Living some distance from the office I have occasion to use the street cars considerably, and while going to and fro

I amuse myself by reading the different advertisements placed in the cars. Nearly all those relating to "Cure Alls," and that class have some motto, quotation, &c., and which can be applied to matters in no way connected with the wares or their virtue.

There is one that I have noticed so much that it seems to haunt my sleep, and the only reason I can think of is on account of my being a telegrapher. "Take time when time is, for time flies," is the motto which makes my slumber fitful. Why? Because there is no class that use "Time" like the telegrapher. He is always looking for "time." It is the first question he will ask you after accounts close, "How much time have you in ; how much time have you lost?" "I must make up time I have lost," and so on. It is time in and time out. I have to smile at the humorous side that this motto recalls to me. What a misconception the "boys," ah ! and the girls, too, would put on it if this motto was over the entrances. They would look on it as a direct invitation to go out frequently, for as it reads take "time" and if they don't time will fly. It is hardly necessary to ask us to take "time," for it keeps the chief on the move looking out for "time." We would take not purposely, but because it comes our way. When the majority of the "profesh" have to make time they do not hesitate to do so for themselves as well as the Company. There is one part of the working force of the office to whom this motto can be applied, and where it is used with justice to themselves and the company, and where it is abused in same ratio—the waiting list. There are some who work every hour they can, who are prompt and never absent, and who take time when time is, for they know full well that during the Winter months if they don't they must suffer, for time flies ; while there are a good many who live but for the hour, and when they have received their stipend you won't see them in the office until they are compelled to return to work. Then you can hear the wail : "No 'time ; no chance to make 'time,'" and up to the evening before we sign the voucher you will hear that plaintive wail. They never seem to think that they are to blame ; every one holding official position are their enemies, because they have neglected to make the time when it could be made. It is to these that I have thought can be applied the motto, "Take Time when Time is, for Time flies."

TRANSFERS.—F. J. Norton, St. Ignace, to Detroit, Mich. ; J. S. Creegan, Sedalia, to Kansas City, Mo., for the Pacific Mutual ; James Anderson, St. Paul, Minn., to Halena, Mont. ; J. S. Knapp, St. Paul, Minn., to Hathaway, Mont. ; H. H. Hoover, Peach Springs, to Williams, Ariz. ; T. McQuade, Adams, N. Y., to Utica, N. Y. ; L. Boulet, to River du Loup, Que. ; T. A. Nolley, Little Rock, to Pine Bluff, Ark. ; A. F. Mason, Pembroke, to Brockville, Ont. ; P. Lepage, Melbourne, Iowa, to Eufaula, Ind. Territory ; A. J. Crew, Lyle, Minn., to Durant, Ind. Territory ; Tom Morris, Lyle, Minn., to Fort Scott, Kans.

Mr. W. B. Richardson, until last June of the W. U., New York, has returned from Panama.

Miss Florence J. Deane, of the W. U., Brooklyn, has returned to work after three weeks' illness.

W. E. Oddie, recently of Brooklyn is now with Havemeyer & Elder, sugar refiners, on Wall St., as private operator :

F. J. Boldrick, of Norwood, Ont., has the sympathy of a large circle of acquaintances in the death of his wife.

A. G. Sibbold, the well known ex-B. & O. district manager has been appointed manager of the new Western Union office in West Washington Market.

The Anniston, Alabama, office is under the able management of W. L. Mosely with W. A. Sheppard operator and David Schlessinger, clerk and assistant.

WANTED.—Engagement in South or Central America, by operator, well posted in Electrical matters and line building. Speaks Spanish thoroughly. Address Rio, Electric Age, N.Y.

MARRIED.—At the home of the bride's parents, in Brooklyn, Mr. E. E. Thomas, formerly with Baltimore & Ohio and Manhattan District Company, in New York, to Miss Jennie E. Oertel. Congratulations extended.

DIED.—Felix Mallon, assistant electrician and repairman of the Gold and Stock Company, Baltimore, Md., died at that place February 17, of consumption.

DIED.—John E. Healy, of the 195 Broadway force, died of consumption, February 20, aged 27 years. He was a quiet but popular young man, and his untimely death is regretted by a large circle of acquaintances. He was the sole support of an aged father and sister. His funeral was well attended by his associates, who very liberally contributed to the relief of the suffering family.

KILLED.—Frank W. Baden, a telegraph operator in the employ of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Baltimore, was thrown from a train in that city and killed. He lived in Georgetown, D. C., and was unmarried.

CAMAS.—There is no corporation hiring men to go to Chili. New roads in that country are operated by natives entirely.

Mr. E. Leloup, formerly superintendent of the B. & O., at Galveston, and recently of New Orleans, is now located at Birmingham, Ala.

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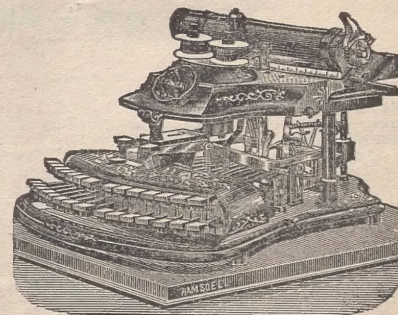
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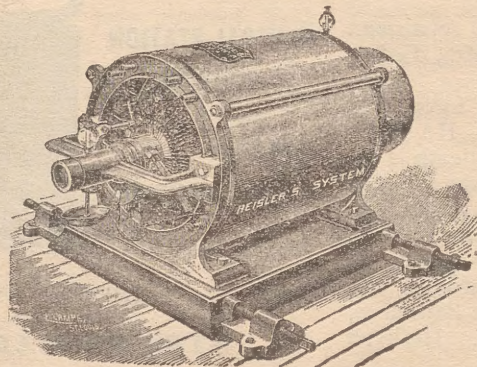
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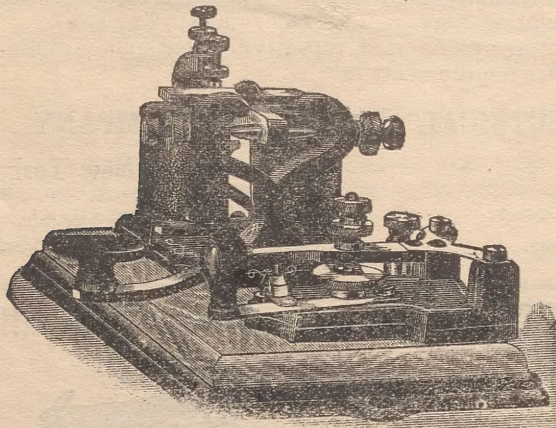
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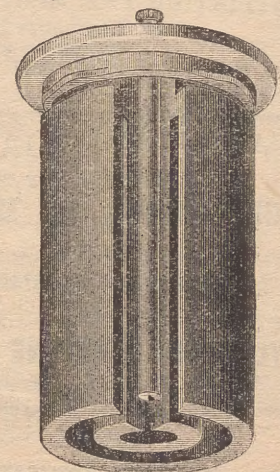
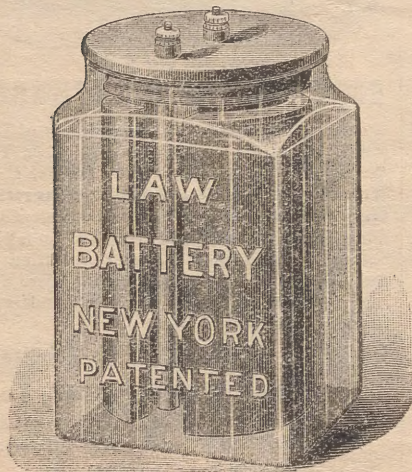
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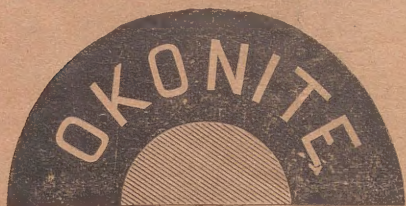
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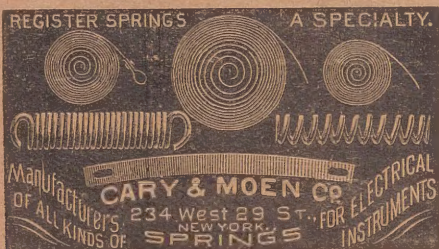


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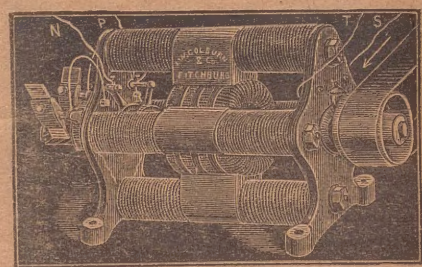
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