NEWS CONDENSED.

DOINGS OF CONGRESS.

CONSIDERATION of the Tariff bill in committee of the whole was completed by the Senate on the 10th inst. The amendment proposed by Mr. Beck reducing the internal-revenue tax on snuff, smoking and manufactured tobacco to 8 cents per pound was agreed to. On motion of Mr. Williams, the tax on cigars was made $3 per thousand, instead of $4, as in the bill. Mr. Logan moved to place salt on the free list, but it was decided to refer the matter to the Senate. The House discussed the Ways and Means Committee's Tariff bill. Mr. Maxey's amendment fixing the duty on iron cotton ties at 35 per cent. ad valorem was defeated, after a sharp discussion, by the close vote of 97 to 101, four Democrats — all of them from the Pennsylvania manufacturing districts — voting with the Republicans against the proposed reduction. On motion of Mr. Kelley, a duty of 1¼ cents per pound was imposed upon cast-iron vessels, plates, stove-plates and iron, sad irons, tailors' irons and hatters' irons. Mr. Dunnell moved to reduce the duty on cut nails and spikes from 1¼ to 1 cent per pound, and, in advocating the motion, spoke of the pending bill as giving too little reduction. The motion was lost, after a lively debate. On motion of Mr. Carlisle, the duty on railway fish-plates was reduced from 1½ to 1¼ cents per pound. Mr. Dunnell moved to reduce the duty on horseshoe nails, hobnails and wire nails from 4 to 3 cents per pound. The motion was lost.

THE Senate spent the whole day, and a good part of the night, on the 12th inst., discussing the Morrill Tariff bill. Much of the time was consumed in fighting over again the pig-iron battle. The immediate bone of contention was the proposition of Mr. Sherman, of Ohio, to put the duty on pig-iron at $6.72, where it was fixed by the committee. He failed to get the figure he wanted, but coaxed the Senate to yield so far as to place it at $6.50. The action of the committee of the whole in striking out lumber from the wood schedule was disagreed to by 29 to 16. Lath, shingles, pine clapboards and spruce clapboards, struck out in the committee of the whole, were also restored at the rates in the bill—the Senate refusing to agree to the action in committee by a vote of yeas 18, nays 32. Two hours were spent in discussing an amendment in relation to vinegar factories. The tariff question also claimed the attention of the House, and precipitated one of the liveliest debates of the session. The items under discussion were those relating to the duties on bars and rods from which fencing-wire, trace-chains, horse-shoes, nails and similar articles are manufactured, and steel used for making locomotive and other tires. Slight reductions were made in the material of which fencing wire, trace chains, horse shoes and nails are made, but the locomotive tire material was kept up. The House refused to pass a bill for the retirement of Alfred Pleasonton with the rank of Major General. Mr. Robertson introduced a bill to prohibit the transmission of lottery advertisements through the mails.

THE Senate worked seven hours upon its Tariff bill on Feb. 13. Sugar was the main subject of discussion. The New England men, who wanted reductions in the lower grades; the Southern men, who wanted reductions in the higher grades, if any reduction were to be made; the men from the Middle States, who were opposed to any reduction, but preferred reductions in the higher to reductions in the lower grades, made over again the speeches they had made in committee of the whole. At times the debate was exciting. The outcome of it all was a compromise, offered by Mr. Bayard, with which everybody seemed to be satisfied. The tobacco item was then taken up, and also excited spirited debate, which was likewise ended by a compromise between the Connecticut and Havana tobacco interests. The House was engaged all day upon the metal schedule of the Ways and Means Committee bill. Among the important changes made was an amendment to prescribe a duty of 45 per cent on all steel not specially enumerated, the duty in no case to exceed 2½ cents per pound. The duty on nickel, nickel oxide, alloy of any kind in which nickel is the element of chief value, was reduced from 25 cents to 15 cents per pound. A duty on quicksilver of 25 per cent. ad valorem was inserted. Bronze powder was reduced from 25 per cent. to 20 per cent.; gold leaf from $2 per package of 500 leaves to $1.50, and shotguns and all other firearms not provided for in the act were reduced from 35 per cent. to 30 per cent. A duty of 35 per cent. was placed on pistols of all kinds. The duty on penknives, pocketknives and razors of all kinds was reduced to 40 per cent. The tariff on metallic pens was fixed at 12 cents a gross instead of 45 per cent. There was a little personal spat between Messrs. Townshend, of Illinois, and Haskell, of Kansas. The former charged that the measure under consideration was the work of hired lobbyists. The latter resented the charge, and some hot words followed, which for a time relieved the dull monotony that usually attends tariff legislation in Congress.

THE amendment made in committee of the whole, raising the duty on bituminous coal from 50 to 75 cents a ton, came up in the Senate on Feb. 14 and gave rise to a long debate. It was concurred in by a vote of 29 to 18. There was also a lively discussion concerning the duty on books, which was fixed at 15 per cent. ad valorem. Mr. Blair introduced in the Senate a bill to prevent the use of convict labor upon works of the United States. The House wrestled the whole day with the tariff problem. An attempt to reduce the duty on all iron wares not enumerated in the bill was defeated, every amendment looking to that end being promptly voted down. A proposition offered by Mr. Cox, of New York, for the admission of foreign-built ships on the payment of a duty of 30 per cent. was lost, three Republicans voting with the Democrats in the affirmative. Mr. Holman moved to place lumber on the free list, which gave rise to a long and animated debate. This, together with several other amendments looking to the reduction of the duties on hubs, wagon blocks, etc., were promptly squelched. A night session was held to consider the Legislative Appropriation bill, at which Mr. Butterworth made an earnest effort to secure an hour for the consideration of the bonded whisky bill, was beaten. Mr. Joyce declared that the measure should not have one minute during the session.

NEARLY all the day of Feb. 15 was consumed in the Senate by discussion of the tariff, and the Senate bill was pushed through the second reading. Mr. Cockrell presented petitions from the officers of several educational institutions in Missouri for the appointment of a practical astronomer as Superintendent of the Naval Observatory. Mr. Morrill handed in a remonstrance against any reduction of the tariff on books below 25 per cent., signed by Oliver Wendell Holmes, T. B. Aldrich and John G. Whittier. In executive session Mr. Edmunds offered a resolution to admit to the floor only such private secretaries as are engaged in the performance of duty. In the House Mr. Williams submitted a conference report on the Japanese indemnity fund, to return the $785,000 received, to pay $140,000 to the officers of the Wyoming and Takiang, and cancel the bonds composing the indemnity fund. This was agreed to. The sugar schedule of the Tariff bill was under discussion, and all amendments were voted down by large majorities, and the committee bill was substantially unchanged.

EASTERN.

Hon. Marshall Jewell, Chairman of the Republican National Committee, and who had served as Postmaster General, Minister to Russia and three terms as Governor of Connecticut, died at Hartford. He was 57 years of age.

Charles R. Thorne, the actor, died at New York of gout of the stomach, aged 43 years.

At Rondout, N. Y., a large building occupied by railway and steamboat offices, the ice-house (containing 2,000 tons) of the Cornell Steamboat Company and the steamer City of Catskill were burned. Loss $150,000.

The Bay State Iron Company, of Boston, has suspended operations, with liabilities of $450,000. The plant is said to be worth $1,000,000.

Stuart Robson delivered an address at the funeral of Charles R. Thorne, Jr., the actor, but there were no religious ceremonies. A telegram of sympathy from Robert J. Ingersoll was read.

The Boston Board of Aldermen has passed an order for lighting all the streets by electricity.

Collender's seven-story billiard factory at Stamford, Conn., was swept away by fire. The loss is placed at $250,000.

Over $25,000 has been expended on the crypt under the cathedral at Garden City, Long Island, but the corpse of A. T. Steward is still missing.

A court at Troy, N. Y., annulled the marriage of Samuel Hides, aged 77 years, and a clairvoyant named Mann, and cancled the deeds to property given the bride.

Two hardware manufactories and a spectacle factory at Reading, Pa., have closed for a period, owing to dullness of trade. The Reading Railway Company has also reduced its car-shop force by 150 men.

At Wilton, Conn., in the room in which her father's corpse lay, ready for burial, Miss Gregory was married. It was in accordance with the wishes of her deceased parent.

Edwin D. Morgan, the war Governor of New York, has passed away, at the age of 72. Early in life he proved himself possessed of business abilities of a high order, and for more than a generation he had been at the head of one of the largest mercantile houses in New York City.

At the funeral of Edwin D. Morgan in New York, President Arthur, John Jacob Astor and Hugh J. Jewett appeared among the pall-bearers. The remains were interred at Cedar Hill Cemetery, Hartford.

James D. Fish, President of the Marine National Bank of New York, purchased Booth's Theater for $550,000.

WESTERN.

Cincinnati dispatches of Feb. 15 report the water in the Ohio river, at that date, at sixty-six feet. The city was practically cut off from railway communication, being surrounded by water and all the railway tracks submerged. Business was practically suspended all over the city. Soup-houses had been established at various points. The Catholic churches were thrown open to accommodate the homeless. The work of relief was going on vigorously and many touching scenes were witnessed. Outside aid was pouring in freely. It was ascertained that fourteen boys were drowned by the bursting of the McLean avenue sewer. Louisville telegrams of the 15th represented the situation as extremely distressing. The river was rising at the rate of an inch an hour, and all along the city front for several miles houses were being undermined and were tumbling into the angry torrent. Subscriptions were being freely made for the benefit of the thousands of homeless ones. At Jeffersonville, opposite Louisville, the distress was even relatively greater, the whole city being submerged to the depth of from two to twenty feet. Many houses were swept away, and hundreds of people had taken refuge in the upper stories of public buildings and business blocks, food being sent to them in small boats. Filth from hundreds of privies, was floating on the waters, and the scenes of suffering were described by an eye-witness as appalling. At Lawrenceburg, Ind., north of Louisville, the people were suffering greatly, and carloads of food were sent from other parts of the State, the Legislature of Indiana having also appropriated $40,000 for relief. Madison and other points along the river between Louisville and Cincinnati also suffered more or less from the extraordinary inundation. At Fern Bank, below Cincinnati, a floating house was stopped, and in one of the rooms was found a baby sleeping peacefully in its crib. The child was delivered into the care of the Catholic Orphan Society.

Two lads of Minneapolis, 11 years of age, quarreled over some petty matter, when one killed the other with a pocket knife.

Special customs agents of Chicago went to St. Louis and forced a prominent business house in that city to pay $7,000 for duties and penalties on goods brought from Paris. Several private parties also settled accounts on smuggled jewelry and clothing.

Dispatches from the overflowed districts along the Ohio river on the 16th inst. state that "the flood at Cincinnati reached its highest stage at 4 o'clock yesterday morning, when it stood sixty-six feet and four inches. Contributions of $16,000 were received from various cities, and the life-saving crew of Cleveland arrived with its apparatus. The Mayors of Jeffersonville and New Albany sent dispatches to all the chief cities, asking for aid for the sufferers. Fire-damp or sewer gas caused an explosion in a house at Cincinnati, shattering the structure, killing three persons, and wounding many others. The rivers are rising at Pittsburgh and Louisville, and the Wabash, Muskingum and Licking are adding their quota to the inundation. Jeffersonville and New Albany, Ind., are entirely surrounded, and Marietta and Zanesville are also flooded."

Isaac Knapp, who was sent to the Ohio penitentiary from Fremont for life, secured a pardon by false representations as to his health. He was speedily rearrested and instituted habeas corpus proceedings. The State Supreme Court decided that it could not inquire into the validity of the pardon, and Knapp was discharged.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Citizens of Chihuahua organized a company and attacked a band of Apaches, killing twelve of them and capturing thirty-three. In a fight on the border of Sonora, Mexican troops killed 100 Indians and took sixty prisoners.

In the United States during 1882 there was manufactured 4,623,323 tons of pig-iron, and at the close of the year 383,655 tons remained unsold. The year's product exceeded by 500,000 tons the greatest output of any one year.

The President of the Irish Land League issues from Buffalo, N. Y., an appeal for aid for the starving people in Ireland.

Porfirio Diaz, the ablest soldier and one of the most prominent statesmen of Mexico, who has participated in a score of revolutions and suppressed as many more, and who served a four years' term as President of the republic, has been elected President of the Supreme Court of Mexico.

Near Dundas, Ont., two express trains collided on the Grand Trunk line, killing an engineer and two passengers, and wounding several others.

The latest wedding at Lancaster, Ohio, was that of Elijah Kemper, aged 84 years, and Rebecca Rider, of 29 summers.

WASHINGTON.

In the star-route trial at Washington, Rerdell interrupted the proceedings to plead guilty, place himself at the mercy of the court, and offer to divulge any facts in connection with the defendants.

Secretary Lincoln, in answering the request of Gen. Hazen for an investigation of the Signal Service Bureau by the Senate, suggests that the Articles of War provide tribunals for dealing with officers of the army.

Gen. Hazen says the floods in the Mississippi are certain to be very disastrous between Cairo and Memphis, and citizens of the river towns have been duly warned.

POLITICAL.

The Minnesota House indefinitely postponed the bill proposing a prohibitory amendment to the State constitution, prohibiting the manufacture or sale of intoxicating liquors.

Gen. Hazen requests Secretary Lincoln to cause an investigation of his administration of the signal office by a committee of the Senate.

Caucuses of all the different parties in the Michigan Legislature were held Feb. 15, and the Senatorial question was discussed at length. The Ferry caucus formally absolved its members from any further obligations to support the Senator.

Ex-Gov. Powell Clayton has been elected Chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee of Arkansas.

FOREIGN.

The French Senate adopted M. Waddington's proposal that Princes who attempt to further their pretensions be banished, after trial in special assizes, or by the Senate, sitting as a high court, whereupon all the members of the Falliéres Ministry sent in their resignations.

Wilhelm Richard Wagner, the great German composer, is dead. He was born at Leipsic, May 22, 1813, and was the youngest of seven children.

Rumors prevail at Berlin that Gen. Von Kameke, Minister of War, has resigned.

Bishop Logue, of Donegal, Ireland, writes the distress is heartrending, and that hungry thousands will no longer be able to suppress the cry of distress.

An uneasy feeling pervades the Limerick policemen, and another strike of the force is threatened.

Prince Napoleon assured the ex-Empress Eugenie that should a popular vote in France result in favor of the republic he should bow obedience to it. If banished he will make London his home.

Additional evidence against the assassins of Cavendish and Burke has been secured, making their chances very black.

The Duchess de Chaulries died in Paris in extreme poverty.

THE TARIFF.

A Hot Discussion of the Question in Congress.

Mr. Dunn offered an amendment providing that there shall be allowed on all implements and machinery manufactured for use in agricultural labor and production, made in whole or in part of material imported on which duties have been paid, a drawback equal in amount to the duty paid on such material. This was an opportunity for the gentlemen on the other side who claimed to be the friends of the farmer to show they were in earnest in their protestations of interest in the cause of agriculture.

Mr. Reed opposed the amendment, which he declared had been offered, not because the gentleman supposed it would prevail, but because he thought the country would pay attention to these attempts to make a record. The country was too sensible to do anything of the kind.

Mr. Townshend, of Illinois, challenged the production from the history of tariff legislation of a bill which was more oppressive in its operation than the bill reported by the present Ways and Means Committee. No important measure had ever been brought before an American Congress where such unfair and tyrannical means had been resorted to in its management. The bill did not originate in Congress. It was sired by a lobby of hired agents of the monopolists, and was brought forth in secret conclave.

Mr. McKinley—No Democratic member of the Ways and Means Committee will say what you have said.

Mr. Townshend went on to say that the three gentleman—Messrs. Kelley, Haskell and McKinley—who were in charge of the bill had not yet descended to the work of detraction and villification. That work had been assigned to another (referring to Mr. Reed), whose voice, manners and characteristics peculiarly qualified him for that work. Every other member on the other side spoke only apparently by license. Was there ever such shameful proceedings inaugurated in an American Congress on such an important measure?

Mr. Haskell said he had stood here for nearly three weeks and had listened to denunciations coming from the other side leveled at the Ways and Means Committee long enough without reply. The gentleman from Illinois stood here and charged that this bill was the creation of a corrupt and scandalous lobby. Every word of his declaration was a flat falsehood. Did he comprehend exactly the full length and breadth and width of that statement? Every word of this bill had been considered in the Ways and Means Committee, and never from the day the committee had taken charge of it until the day they reported it was there a manufacturer or a lobbyist to come before them.

Mr. Townshend—According to your Republican papers the lobbyists crowded the committee-room.

Mr. Haskell—Not a man was before that committee when it was in session. The gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. Carlisle) is as honorable a man as the representative from Illinois, and Mr. Randolph Tucker, of Virginia, is no scoundrel and the tool of no lobbyist. When men like Messrs. Morrison, Randall, Carlisle, Kasson and Kelley are charged on this floor with acting as the agents of lobbyists, the man who charges it utters, I believe, a deliberate falsehood. He knows better. I will go on and brand such statements as that publicly. I put my honor and character before this whole world and country. I invite the closest scrutiny of my public acts and private acts. No hound, no dirty gutter-snipe, ever sunk so low yet as to charge me with dishonor in discharging my duty on this committee or any other. I will not stand here to assert my integrity. It is known where I am known. But when my committee is attacked in the name of my colleagues on that committee, Democratic colleagues and Republican colleagues, I want to brand here now such declarations as that with the appellation which belongs to them.

Mr. Townshend said he did not desire to bandy epithets with the gentleman from Kansas. He did not propose to go to the cesspools to throw filth at his opponents. He had not in his remarks intended any personal application to either of the three gentlemen to whom he had referred. He simply intended to inform the country of the fact, which he had derived from the statements of Republican organs, that the committee had been surrounded and overpowered by hired agents of the tariff monopolists, and it was the influence they had exerted (he would not say corruption) on members of the committee that had brought forth this bill. He had not any personal animosity toward the gentleman from Kansas. He had been surprised at the ability and information which the gentleman had displayed in the management of this bill, for he was the only one on the other side who had shown any acquaintance with it. He was surprised because he had never known the gentleman to show any ability or knowledge worth considering of any subject he had ever discussed. (Mr. Townshend) did not know whether the gentleman intended to hurl at him the epithet of being guilty of uttering a falsehood or not. "I want to know," he continued, turning toward Mr. Haskell, "whether the gentleman charges me personally with falsehood."

Mr. Haskell—Answer me a question and I will answer yours. I want you to answer me whether or not you said that this bill was not made under the rules of this House, but was the creation of a corrupt lobby. Did you say that?

Mr. Townsend—I said then, and say again, that this bill was sired by hired agents of monopoly. I did not say, nor intend to say at the time, that the gentleman himself was the tool of the monopolists. I simply intended to assert, what I repeat here, that this bill was made up by, was inspired by, was sired by, hired agents of the monopolists, and your committee has accepted it and the Republican caucus embraced it. I wish to know, before I say what I may desire to say, whether the gentleman desires to charge me with personal falsehood?

Mr. Haskell—What I said was that the statement made was a false statement, and that I repeat.

"What I want to know," persisted Mr. Townsend, amid derisive laughter on the Republican side, "is whether the gentleman draws a distinction between a statement and the personal honor of the gentleman who makes the statement.

Before Mr. Haskell could reply, Mr. Henderson endeavored to bring about peace by appealing to the committee to proceed with the business and not turn the hall into a bear-garden. But Mr. Townshend persisted in his demand for an explanation. "The statement which I have made," he said, "has been a matter of public notoriety. Leading Republican papers have made it. If the gentleman simply desires to brand the statements which have been spread throughout this land, I have no personal issue with him; but if he here shelters himself behind the privileges of debate on this floor for the purpose of insulting me in public, I want to know it."

Mr. Kasson—I want to say in the common interest of the House that a distinction has always been drawn between a personal charge and a charge of misstatements of facts alleged. The gentleman must remember that his charge was practically one of corruption. Every member of the committee knows that charge to be false.

Mr. Townshend—Let the gentleman from Kansas make that statement and I will be content.

Mr. Kasson—He has already made that statement.

Mr. Townshend—I again ask the gentleman from Kansas whether the gentleman from Iowa has properly stated his feelings on this question.

Mr. Haskell deigned no reply, and Mr. Townshend's persistence was cut off by a motion limiting the debate to one-half minute.

Mr. Dunn's amendment was rejected.

LATER NEWS ITEMS.

Cincinnati dispatches of Feb. 17 report a comforting condition of affairs consequent upon the marked subsidence of the waters. New Albany was in sore distress, and a special committee had appealed for relief. Along the Ohio southward many small towns were partly submerged. The sudden thaw raised the rivers generally in the Northwest, and gorges caused the wrecking of bridges, two being destroyed at Joliet, and sections of the town inundated. Similar accidents occurred at other Illinois towns, and railroad tracks washed out.

The testimony of Rerdell, one of the indicted star-route conspirators, who pleaded guilty and threw himself on the mercy of the court, was of a most important nature. He told how he had lived under the same roof with the Dorseys, and how, after aiding them in filling out bids, he had been sent out West to establish "paper" stations and prepare the way for the "expediting service" that followed, and by which the conspirators were enabled to rob the Government of hundreds of thousands of dollars. On the second day of his appearance in the witness box, he was engaged during the entire session of the court in identifying handwritings and documents. Under ex-Senator Dorsey's direction he manufactured the paper applications upon which the postal routes were extended, forged the names of fictitious persons, and altered genuine applications. In the cash-book which Rerdell kept was an account with "William Smith," who he declared was none other than Brady, the ex-First Assistant Postmaster General. The testimony of the witness created a sensation at Washington.

An express train on the Columbus road was ditched near Galion, by which Rev. D. I. Fouts and two others were killed and three men were injured.

Four residents at Massillon, Ohio, have brought suits against that city for damages sustained by the floods, alleging that the culverts were permitted to fill up with rubbish.

The Arkansas Legislature passed an act prohibiting for two years the sale of intoxicants within three miles of a church or school, according to the wishes of the adult majority of both sexes.

A train on the Pittsburgh and Western road was derailed at Ætna station, mortally injuring Engineer J. C. Cooper and Fireman Edward Brady.

THE Japanese Indemnity bill, which had previously passed the House, was taken up and passed by the Senate on Feb. 16, after which the Senators tackled the Tariff bill, but did little work. The House laid aside the Tariff bill and took up and passed the Legislative Appropriation bill. The working hours of the Government clerks were fixed at seven and one-half in winter, and eight in summer. The clerks fought vainly for a "softer job." The whisky men made an effort to secure the consideration of the "Bonded Period" bill, but were promptly defeated. Bills were introduced to appropriate $100,000 and $500,000 for the relief of the sufferers by the flood along the Ohio and Mississippi.

A MINE MASSACRE.

Collapse of a Sink-Hole Above a Coal-Shaft at Braidwood, Ill.

The Pit Flooded With a Vast Torrent of Water, and About Eighty Men Drowned.

[Braidwood Telegram (Feb. 16) to Chicago Tribune.]

The most awful tragedy which has ever visited the Wilmington coalfields occurred to-day at the No. 2 shaft of the Wilmington Coal-Mining and Manufacturing Company, known as the Diamond Company, three miles and a half northwest of this city. The little village of Diamond is a scene of desolation calculated to wring the heart of even the most hardened to scenes of misery and woe.

Sixty-eight men and six boys lie dead in the mine, and it may be weeks before even the melancholy satisfaction of recovering their bodies is accorded. No such calamity has ever befallen this section of country, or, for that matter, nothing as horrible has ever been chronicled in the history of mining in the United States. The destruction occurred in an instant, and came with overwhelming force.

In every home there is weeping and sorrow for the Braidwood miners who will return no more. The whole population of Diamond is devoted to mining, and this crushing blow carries ruin to a hundred families. In several instances all the male members have been swept away, and what will be the future of Diamond it is impossible to forecast.

The tragedy was as unique as it was devastating. A section of prairie-land, forty by ninety feet, over which the floods had extended until the water stood three or four feet deep, suddenly caved in, the result being the instantaneous flooding of a mine in which 300 men and boys were at work. Inside of half an hour the water had extended to all parts of the workings, and to-night it stands within five feet of the top of the main shaft. Seventy-four human beings were choked to death in the grim recesses of the mine.

All hope of the possible rescue of any of these unhappy beings by the opening of a driveway from an old air-shaft into the workings was abandoned at dusk, when the water poured into the last-named shaft, and the workmen were compelled to abandon their last desperate attempt at the salvation of their fellows.

The scene of the horror was the Diamond Pit No. 2, which has been operated for about ten years, and in which anywhere from 300 to 400 men were regularly employed. This morning from 290 to 300 went to work, and by noon one-fourth the number were dead.

The escape of the majority was almost by a miracle. The country around the mines is an almost dead-level prairie, and the recent tremendous rains have covered the whole country with water. Hundreds of acres of land are honeycombed by the mine-workings, many of which have been worked out and abandoned. It was through a break in one of the abandoned workings that the flood poured in to-day.

The Diamond shaft No. 2 is ninety-two feet deep. Above the coal lies from seventy to 110 feet of earth. The coal-vein varies in thickness from two feet nine inches to three feet four inches. Above it is a layer of soap-stone, and it rests on a bed of fire-clay. The vein winds and dips a good deal, and thus some parts of the mine are a good deal lower than others.

About 11:30 the rumor spread among the population of the mining village that the ground had caved in over the main roadway in the Diamond Shaft No. 2, and that the water that had stood in a large pond on the surface of the prairie was rushing into the passages of the mine, cutting off the miners and holding them in the passage. Upon the spreading of the rumor large crowds or miners' wives, with children in arms, rushed toward the scene of the catastrophe, anxious to hear of their husbands, brothers and sons who were employed in the mines. When the crowd reached the main entrance they found everything in a state of the utmost confusion. Around the shaft were a crowd of anxious men and women, eagerly rendering any assistance that was possible to the half-drowned miners who appeared at the bottom of the shaft.

To the north could also be seen a crowd of men collected around an air-shaft, who were likewise fishing out the almost perishing miners who had climbed to the top and would have sunk back exhausted upon the ground had it not been for the assistance of the willing hands. Women wrung their hands, as, one by one, they anxiously viewed each new face that appeared above ground, but found not the father or son who was missing, and for whom some fell down upon their knees and prayed. The news was upon the lips of every one. Friends anxious for the safety of some lost one hurriedly paced back and forth, trying to devise some means of salvation for the poor creatures who were penned up never to be rescued alive.

Little by little the terrible character of the catastrophe became apparent. Then it was that the most heartrending scenes occurred. A wife bent over the shaft as her husband was climbing the ladder in the air-shaft with his young son dead in his arms, and extended her arms to receive them, but she was doomed to disappointment, for the man, worn out with the desperate struggle which he had undergone to save the body of his son, fell back into the pit a lifeless corpse, and has not since been seen.

A young German maiden saw her lover brought out of a shaft in almost a lifeless condition, and, falling upon her knees, she smoothed back the hair and thanked God that he had been saved.

Mrs. McQuistion, who was on the ground when the news came that her husband and three sons were dead in the mine, was taken with nervous prostration and had to be removed from the ground. She is now in a precarious condition and her mind is permanently injured.

The following is the story of John Huber, an eye-witness of the whole affair, and a man who was in the mine at the time of the accident:

"I was working in one of the west sections of the main corridor, and had just got my car ready for transfer, when I heard a voice which sounded weak at first saying, 'Look out; the water is coming.' For a few moments I did not comprehend the awful meaning of the language used, and so went back to block up the coal, when I heard the same warning again and again, and a small stream of water running down the center of the track. The truth at once flashed upon me that I was in danger, and that the water was coming from some unknown locality. I rushed as fast as the nature of the passage would allow me to where I thought my two sons were at work, but found that they had gone. I then yelled at the top of my voice to the men near me, and made as fast as I could for the air-shaft, where I knew there was a ladder, and that I could get out. By this time the water was up to my armpits, and I had a hard time to get up the shaft, so exhausted was I with the rapid run I had made in the stooping position. When I got home, great God! What did I see! There upon her bed lay my wife, tearing her hair and wailing in almost a crazy condition. 'O, John,' she said, 'where are the boys?' The truth then flashed upon me that perhaps they were dead. I went back as fast as I could, and found that my horrible anticipations were only too true, and that the boys had not been seen since entering the shaft in the morning."

STARTLING STATISTICS.

The Shadow Hanging Over New York City and the Entire Country—A Tribune Opinion.

The nation has been horrified at the burning of a Milwaukee hotel, whereby over seventy lives were lost. This event carried terror because it was sudden and appalling; but had the same disastrous results to life and limb come silently they would have been unnoticed, not only by the people of the land but also by the very community in which they occurred. Fatal events of a far worse nature have taken place in this very city, but they have attracted no attention, nor would they now did not the Bureau of Vital Statistics bring them to our notice. "Figures do not lie," whatever else may be uncertain, and the report on the *deaths* of this city is a startling comment on its *life*. During the past year the enormous increase of certain maladies is simply appalling. While the total number of deaths has diminished and the death rate from most diseases has decreased still it is far greater in one or two serious disorders than was ever known before. More people died in the city of New York in 1882 from Bright's disease of the kidneys than from diphtheria, small-pox and typhoid fever all combined! This scarcely seems possible but it is true, and when it is remembered that less than one-third the actual deaths from Bright's disease are really reported as such, the ravages of the malady can be partially understood.

The immediate query which every reader will make upon such a revelation of facts, is: What causes this increase? This question is answered with ease. The nature of the climate, the habits of life, the adulteration of foods and liquors, all undoubtedly contribute; but no immediate cause can be certainly assigned. Often before the victim knows it the disease has begun. Its approaches are so stealthy and its symptoms so obscure that they cannot be definitely foreseen and are only known by their effects. Any kidney disorder, however slight, is the first stage of Bright's disease. But it is seldom that kidney disorders can be detected. They do not have any certain symptoms. Mysterious weariness; an unusual appetite; periodical headaches; occasional nausea; uncertain pains; loss of vigor; lack of nerve power; irregularity of the heart; disordered daily habits; imperfect digestion—all these and many other symptoms are the indications of kidney disorder, even though there may be no pain in the region of the kidneys or in the portion of the back. The serious nature of these troubles may be understood from the fact that Bright's disease is as certain to follow diseased kidneys as decomposition follows death.

It is high time the doctors in this land, who have been unable to control kidney troubles, should be aroused and compelled to find some remedy, or acknowledge one already found. The suffering public needs help and cannot await the tardy action of any hair-splitting code or incorrectly formulated theories. If the medical world has no certain remedy for this terrible disease let them acknowledge it and seek for one outside the pale of their profession. For the discovery of this remedy and for its application to this disease, the people of this city; the people of the whole land; not only those who are suffering, but those who have friends in danger, are earnestly and longingly looking.

The above quotation from the New York *Tribune* is causing considerable commotion, as it seems to lift the cover from a subject that has become of national importance. The alarming increase of kidney diseases; their insidious beginnings and frightful endings and the acknowledged inability of physicians to successfully cope with them may well awaken the greatest dread of every one who has the slightest symptoms. It is fortunate, however, that the surest relief is often found where, possibly, least expected, and that there is a specific for the evils above described we have came to fully believe. Within the past two years we have frequently seen statements of parties claiming to have been cured of serious kidney troubles even after hope had been abandoned; but in common with most people we have discredited them. Quite recently, however, a number of prominent and well-known men have come out voluntarily and stated over their signatures that they were completely cured by the use of Warner's Safe Kidney and Liver Cure. Most people have been aware that this medicine has an unusual standing and one entitling it to be classed above proprietary articles generally; but that it had accomplished so much in checking the ravages of kidney disease is not so generally known. Its great worth has been shown, not only by the cures it has effected, but also because a number of base imitations have appeared in the market, fraudulently claiming the valuable qualities of the original Safe Cure. If it were not valuable it would not be imitated.

The above may seem like an ultra indorsement of a popular remedy, but it is not one whit stronger than the facts admit. Whatever assists the world toward health and consequent happiness should receive the hearty indorsement of the press and all friends of humanity. It is on precisely this principle that the foregoing statement is made and it merits the careful consideration of every thinking reader.

Length of Hair.

It has been ascertained that the ordinary length of the hair, as shown by the measurement in women, ranges between twenty and thirty-six inches, and its weight from six to eight ounces. However, if the hair is closely shaved it becomes persistent, and also increases in bulk and strength. The hair grows at the rate of one line and a half per week, or six and a half inches per year, being twenty-six feet, if we live to be eighty. The shape of small hairs is cylindrical, and more or less oval for long hairs. The hairs of the head are never cylindrical, and those of the beard and eyebrows are somewhat oval. When left to their natural growth the end or tip is always conical and pointed. The surface of the scalp presents about 120 superficial inches, and the number of hairs on the entire head amounts to 90,000 in a thin head of hair, but in a thick head of hair the amount is much greater, for many of the pores give passages to two hairs. At its lower end the hair-tube terminates in a cul de sac, and this portion of its cavity is filled by an accumulation of freshly-formed cells and granules, which constitute the root of the hair; above this point the little mass of cells separate into two parts; a central part of a cylindrical figure, which is the newly-formed hair, and a peripheral layer, which incloses the former and is continuous with and is the sheath of the scarf-skin which lines the tube.—*Brooklyn Eagle.*

THE Salem, Mass., *Register* mentions: Mr. J. S. LeFavour, artist, surprisingly benefited by St. Jacobs Oil. Rheumatism twenty years.

The Old Gum Shoe.

Do you remember the old-fashioned rubber shoe?* Ah, that was the shoe worth having. It was none of your flimsy, trim, shiny abominations of the present degenerate day. It was a great, clumsy, ill-looking moccasin, that had neither form nor symmetry, but it would wear out a dozen of our ordinary modern shoes. What an art was it to put the thing on! Turning it half inside out, you put your toe into its interior, and then with a tug and a jerk you pulled the heel in place, and you were inside a shoe that clung to you tighter than a brother. And what fun was it at school to dimple in the toe, place a spit ball in the hollow, and then, with fingers inside, to send the ball with catapultic power smack into the face of the studious scholar on the opposite side of the room! Alas! there is no fun in the modern rubber shoe, and but very little wear. Joy and utility have given place to mere beauty of outline and prosaic comfort.—*Boston Transcript.*

THERE are 622 different farm gates for use of farmers, and the farmer knows it as well as any one else. The great advantage in his profession is in always having time enough to let down the fence.

THE Albany, N. Y., *Argus* observes: Judge McGowan, this city, was cured of rheumatism by St. Jacobs Oil.

MR. JONATHAN BOWERS, of Blanchester, O., writes: "I am 72 years of age. I keep Guysott's Yellow Dock and Sarsaparilla always in the house. A dose now and then makes me feel like a boy. It gives me a good appetite and keeps me from having dyspepsia."

Not the Only Fool.

Judge Peter Dombey attended the inaugural ball, and he enjoyed himself so much that about midnight it took four men to bring him in a hack and a comatose condition to his wife. She, thinking from the looks of him that he had a rush of blood to the head, sent for the physician, who investigated the patient carefully, and then directed that the family pastor be sent for at once. In a short time the clergyman was bending over the couch of the dying reveler. The clergyman was in the midst of an earnest prayer when he smelt a rat, or rather the aroma of whisky.

"I think," said the clergyman, "that our friend has already had more spiritual consolation than is good for him."

"Yes, he is drunk," calmly replied the physician.

"Why, then, did you send for me?"

"Because, you see, I didn't care to be the only fool on this sad occasion."—*Texas Siftings.*

MAJOR GALE FAXON bought a horse from the pastor of an Austin church, and shortly afterward the following conversation was heard: "You have swindled me with that horse you sold me last week." "How so?" asked the clergyman, very much surprised. "Well, I only had him for three days when he died." "That's very strange. I owned him twenty-three years, and worked him hard every day, and never knew him to do that while I owned him.—*Texas Siftings.*

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We take pleasure in recommending Dr. Warner's White Wine of Tar Syrup to the public, especially to any public speaker who may be troubled with throat or lung diseases.

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Sold by all druggists.

WHEN rain falls, if she gets the bigger half of the umbrella, they are lovers; if he takes the bigger half, they are married.

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Have long plied their vocation on the suffering pedals of the people. The knife has pared to the quick; caustic applications have tormented the victim of corns until the conviction shaped itself—there's no cure. PUTNAM'S PAINLESS CORN EXTRACTOR proves on what a slender basis public opinion often rests. If you suffer from corns get the Extractor and you will be satisfied. Sold everywhere. Wholesale, Lord, Stoutenburgh & Co., Chicago.

WHEN is a man like the woman of Samaria? When his wife tells him "all things he has ever done."

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I will send one bottle of White Wine of Tar Syrup, gratis, to any minister that will recommend it to his friends after giving it a fair test, and it proves satisfactory for coughs, colds, throat or lung diseases.

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THE man who was "six feet in his stockings" probably wore the garter around his neck.

GOOD health is the greatest of fortunes; no remedy has so often restored this prize to the suffering as Hood's Sarsaparilla. Try it.

"I DESS I know what memory is," said a little 4-year-old. "It's de ting I fordet wid."

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THE VOLTAIC BELT CO., Marshall, Mich., will send Dr. Dye's Celebrated Electro-Voltaic Belts and Electric Appliances on trial for thirty days to men (young or old) who are afflicted with nervous debility, lost vitality and kindred troubles, guaranteeing speedy and complete restoration of health and manly vigor. Address as above. N. B.—No risk is incurred, as thirty days' trial is allowed.

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THOUSANDS upon thousands of bottles of Carboline, a deodorized extract of petroleum, have been sold, and from all over the land comes the universal cry, "Carboline, as now improved and perfected, is the best hair restorer ever used." Sold by all druggists.

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